

Carter absence from Tito funeral upsets Yugoslavs

Heads of state and world dignitaries gathered in Belgrade to pay their last respects to President Tito at his funeral tomorrow. President Carter's absence has dismayed Yugoslavs, who are concerned that the ceremony should also be treated as a forum for world peace. President Brezhnev is to head a Soviet delegation.

Mr Brezhnev to head Soviet delegation

From Dessa Trevisan

Belgrade, May 6

As scores of thousands of Belgradians file past in silent tribute to President Tito and foreign statesmen are beginning to arrive for the funeral on Thursday, President Carter's decision not to attend the ceremony has raised doubts about the credibility of his repeated assurances to stand by Yugoslavia.

This is further underlined by the announcement that Mr Brezhnev will in person head the Soviet delegation which is being followed by all the members of the Warsaw Pact.

The Soviet decision for Mr Brezhnev to head the delegation, took the Yugoslavs by surprise. They were expecting that the Soviet delegation would be led by a Politbureau member, such as Mr Kirilenko.

The Yugoslavs are not concealing their disappointment that Mr Carter has failed to take the opportunity personally to pay his respects to President Tito.

The Americans have again been upstaged by the Russians, a Yugoslav journalist said. Mr Walter Mondale, the Vice-President of the United States, will lead the American delegation.

China was the first to announce that Chairman Hua Guofeng would lead a delegation. Mr Carter's decision not to attend may have precipitated the Soviet decision to upgrade its own delegation.

Mr Carter has missed an opportunity, not only to strengthen relations with Yugoslavia but also to meet statesmen from the non-aligned world, such as Mrs Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, and General Zia ul-Haq, the Pakistani President. This has reinforced the feeling that American diplomacy is in a state of disarray.

To add insult to injury, as one Yugoslav said bitterly, the delegation from the United States will include President Carter's mother, Mrs Lilian Carter.

Yugoslavs feel Mr Carter's presence would have demonstrated that Russia, China and the United States each place equal importance on maintaining Yugoslavia's position.

The importance that the Warsaw Pact countries attach to demonstrating their presence is underlined by the fact that even

Mr Todor Zhivkov, the President of Bulgaria, is to attend. He has been trying in vain to arrange a meeting with President Tito for the past 10 years.

Most of the delegations are expected here later today, tomorrow and the 24-hour strike has been planned to provide them with ample opportunity for talks. This is what the Yugoslavs would wish as a final homage to the late President who, already on his deathbed sent messages to President Carter and Mr Brezhnev calling for all efforts to be made to stop the dangerous deterioration in world peace.

Among statesmen and politi- cians attending the funeral are Mr Qobzadeh, the Iranian Foreign Minister, and Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, and his Foreign Minister, Hans Genscher, who are expected to meet their East German counterparts in Belgrade.

British delegation: Mrs Margaret Thatcher leaves London this morning to attend the funeral and will return tomorrow night (our Political Correspondent writes). As opportunity occurs, she will have bilateral talks with other visiting foreign statesmen, but a meeting with President Brezhnev and Mr Kosygin of the Soviet Union will not be sought.

The British mourners will also include the Duke of Edinburgh, Lord Carrington, Foreign Secretary; Mr James Callaghan, Opposition leader; Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, and Mr Dugald Stewart, of Appin and Lady Stewart, and Sir William Deakin, a former warden of St Antony's College, Oxford.

World leaders: Dignitaries who will attend the funeral include: King Baudouin of Belgium; Dr Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations; Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, Austria; Vice-President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Cuba; Prince Claus, husband of Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands; President Tsatsos, Greece; President Ena, Yugoslav; President Husak, Czechoslovakia; President al-Assad, Syria; President Sarkis, Lebanon; M Raymond Barre, Prime Minister of France; President Sekou Toure, Guinea, and Mme Simone Veil, President of the European Parliament.

Mr Brezhnev, who is 73 and tires easily, was earlier understood to be unlikely to attend, and Mr Andrei Kirilenko, a senior Politburo member was mentioned as the probable representative. But the announcement that Chairman Hua Guofeng of China has gone made it imperative that the Soviet Union should not be upstaged nor seen to be less of a friend to Yugoslavia than Britain.

Mr Brezhnev has never met the Chinese leader, and is not likely to do so in Belgrade. Although the funeral provides the Soviet delegation with an opportunity to meet world leaders, who are concerned with the East-West tension since the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, the Russians are unlikely to engage in any substantive talks.

Mr Brezhnev will be accompanied at the bedside of Tito's Foreign Minister.

The decision that Mr Brezhnev should personally go to Belgrade has not yet been officially announced here, and there are indications that the decision was taken hurriedly when it was clear that so many other countries would be represented by political leaders and heads of states.

Russians ensure they keep up with China

From Michael Binyon

Mo cow, May 6

Before leaving tomorrow for Belgrade, President Brezhnev today headed a delegation of virtually the entire ruling Politburo to the Yugoslav Embassy in Moscow where they signed the book of condolences on the death of President Tito, and paid their respects with a minute's silence.

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Nato prepares for possible loss of US troops

Dr Joseph Luns, secretary-general of Nato, said that European members are to draw up contingency plans for replacing American troops in Europe in case the United States decides to send its troops to safeguard oil supplies in the Gulf. He described the threat to oil as "hypothetical at this moment".

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HOME NEWS

Usual for police to take pickaxe handles on jobs, Peach jury told

By Nicholas Timmins

The jury, at the resumed inquest into the death of Blair Peach, were shown yesterday more than 20 weapons, including crowbars and truncheons, taken from police lockers, after Mr Peach, a New Zealand schoolteacher, of Lavender Grove, Hackney, London, died at the demonstration at Southall last April.

The jury, sitting at Hammersmith, also saw picket crates full of bottles and bricks and other debris, including two lengths of pipe, that the police removed from the scene of the demonstration.

Inspector Douglas Hopkins of the No 3 unit of the special patrol group, said that when he was serving in the East End the police often took pickaxe handles and similar objects, although they were not regulation issue when they were lying in wait for burglars. They also took jemmys and sledgehammers, when executing search warrants, although those were also not issued.

When shown a small spring-handled, lead-weighted cask, found in the locker of a patrol group officer, Mr Hopkins said: "I have never seen any constable arm himself with anything like that."

Asked by Mr Stephen Sedley, for the Peach family, if it was the case that the blow that killed Blair Peach could have come from a police truncheon, Mr Hopkins said: "There is no way it could have been a policeman who wielded the blow."

With senior officers about, the public and television cameras around, and police having their numbers on their shoulders, no officer would have anything with him, other than a police truncheon, he added. It was a ridiculous suggestion.

"The things found in lockers are more likely to be memorabilia," he continued. No police officer would be justified in carrying such a weapon to a demonstration, nor would they, and to use it would be an unlawful act. It would be a very silly man who carried such a weapon with senior officers about.

Mr Hopkins, who directed the police charge into Beechcroft Avenue, where Mr Peach died, said he regrette dthat had happened. But faced with the same situation, where there was danger of a large confrontation

developing, he would do the same again.

The object of the charge, with truncheons drawn, was to disperse the crowd and arrest those throwing stones and bricks, he said. "It was my action as the senior police officer that took people down there. I did my duty as I saw fit."

"I am sorry for Mr Peach and for the bad publicity it has brought to the SPG, and sorry for the effects it has had on some of my colleagues' individual careers, but if I was in the same circumstances, I would have done exactly the same thing again."

It was the special patrol group's job to stop pickpockets at demonstrations escalating.

The situation at the top of Beechcroft Avenue, with 100 to 150 people lined, two or three deep, at its entrance, was "horrible", he said.

British were being thrown, an officer was knocked unconscious with a triple fracture of his jaw by a brick hit his face, and the police were greatly outnumbered. If it had gone wrong there would have been serious trouble.

The jury also saw a club-like wooden truncheon, more than two feet long, taken from Mr Hopkins' locker. It had belonged to his grandfather.

Mr Hopkins said that when he had been accused of the crime squad in the East End he had carried it with him on two or three occasions where it was likely that the criminal would be armed with pickaxes and the like.

The police truncheon is quite a clumsy thing and it was quite common for officers to use things such as pickaxe handles," he said.

As a result of this case, they probably will not be in the future."

He agreed with Mr Sedley that in making an arrest or defending himself, a policeman did not have the right to use such force as to smash someone's skull.

As well as the £200, Mr More said he would pay a further £100 to Major Angel awarded by the jury against the *Sunday Express*, which serialized Mr More's autobiography in 1978.

Major Angel had also sued the *Sunday Express*.

Mr More, of St James Street, Westminster, said later: "I am over the moon with the result. I was weak at the knees. I did not know the jury would deal in hundreds. I thought it would be thousands."

As he signed autographs for members of the jury clutching copies of his autobiography, he added: "It could have cost me my old age pension."

Mr Kenneth More

Actor to pay £200 libel damages

Mr Kenneth More, the actor, was ordered in the High Court yesterday to pay £200 libel damages to Major Danny Angel, a film producer. Mr More said later that he thought the sum would have been thousands.

But because Major Angel, who produced one of Mr More's most memorable films, *Reach for the Sky*, had earlier refused a larger sum in settlement he must pay the costs of the five-day case, estimated at £20,000.

Major Angel, who lives in France, had complained that Mr More libelled him in his autobiography *More or Less*.

Mr More, aged 63, who announced in the witness-box during the hearing that he had retired, was in court yesterday with his wife, Angela Douglas, the actress.

A jury of seven women and four men, one member had withdrawn through illness, decided after a three-hour retirement that Mr More had libelled Major Angel in his autobiography.

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Congress finds Catholicism with a fresh and friendly face

From Clifford Longley, Liverpool

With a sense of surprised delight at finding a fresh and friendly image for themselves and their church, 2,000 delegates to the Roman Catholic National Festival Congress returned to their parishes from Liverpool yesterday with the common sense that things could never be the same.

Hundreds of meetings and tens of thousands of words were condensed to one long weekend, such as most of the delegates had lived through before. Seven long final statements emerged yesterday, an historic moment in the lives of those taking part, for they represented the first real synthesis of view of the church.

It was by no means the only statement to pay special attention to social justice and peace that drew spontaneous loud applause.

The congress was looking for change, or "development" as it is more circumspectly called on such occasions, and a declaration of which the ordination of women and the admission of divorced and remarried Roman Catholics to Holy Communion; the reception by non-Roman Catholic Christians of Holy Communion in Catholic churches; the availability of communion under "both kinds", wine as well as bread; and the greater use of services of general absolution.

At the Philharmonia Hall in

Liverpool where the delegates met for the final plenary session, it was the passionate and unqualified commitment to "social justice" and peace that brought the loudest applause.

The justice section itself began with a long declaration of sorrow for previous neglect for those needing help and liberation, a moving act of repentance that clearly caught the mood and fresh starts and new beginning.

The Roman Catholic laity, unleashed in that extraordinary setting, proved themselves competent, articulate, dedicated and mature; and one bishop was not alone in saying he had not before appreciated the quality of the flock he shepherd.

The bishops with whom the

last word still lies, unless it be with the Pope himself, certain issues did take a full part in the discussions and it will not be easy for them to repudiate a single comma of the congress' final statement. One of the more obvious fruits of the assembly in Liverpool is this new intimacy between bishops and lay people.

Cardinal Clune, who was present almost everywhere as the star of the show, presented a statement of commitment to the new vision and aims that the church had discovered for itself, and for him came the one standing ovation of the day.

His sermon in the memory of his predecessor, the late Cardinal Heenan, was a powerful expression of the new spirit of the church.

It was the Roman Catholic laity, who had been critical of the Pope's visit, who had been most critical of the Pope's visit.

In July the bishops are to meet to consider the congress, and it seems likely that they may want some kind of permanent national structure through which the new spirit of cooperation with the laity could be perpetuated.

the ecumenical dimension both by the representation of other churches and by the discussion of the topic itself, must be an early application by the Roman Catholic church to join the British Council of Churches, reversing an earlier decision to remain on one side.

At a press conference later Cardinal Hume responded cautiously to the suggestion that the congress was not in step with official policy on certain matters, and said that the man need expressed had been for further examination of those principles and policies which had been criticized.

The Archbishop of Liverpool, the most recent Detlef Wulff, whose personal triumph the congress was, commented on Britain by Pope John Paul II.

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NGA to decide next step in print dispute

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

Leaders of the National Gophers Association (NGA) will today consider their next step in the five-week-old dispute which has halted most provincial newspapers and disrupted the general printing industry.

The dispute remained deadlocked yesterday with the British Printing Industries Federation (BPIF) saying that about 15,000 of the 50,000 NGA members employed by federation firms had been locked out in accordance with the federation's advice.

Any possibility of further talks involving the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service will wait at least until today's session of the NGA's national council. Six national newspapers have also been halted for one day because of lighting stoppages by Fleet Street NGA members in support of their provincial colleagues.

There remained yesterday a wide margin between the claims and counterclaims about the number of firms which had settled at or near the NGA's terms. The BPIF said the number of federated firms that they

knew had reached a settlement remained at 120. All had been suspended from membership of the federation.

NGA sources, however, were adamant that as many as five times that figure of federated firms had settled out of a total of 2,200.

Threats alleged: Mr Leslie Stoddart, managing director of the Express and Star, Wolverhampton, which has been involved for the past week in the print dispute with the NGA, claimed yesterday that members of his staff who had continued to work normally had been threatened with violence (our Wolverhampton Correspondent writes).

Journalist pickets: Printers were joined on the picket line by 25 journalists at Cumbrian Newspapers building, Carlisle, yesterday after being locked out by management.

Union defied: Journalists on the Shropshire Star last night rejected an NGA instruction not to cooperate on the production of the paper during the dispute (Our Shropshire Correspondent writes).

Mr Evans said: "This is a travesty of a specific promise sums up the Government's attitude to the whole life of Wales and the future industrial, economic and social development.

Unless the Government reconsiders its decision he would start fasting on October 6

Threat of fast over Welsh TV promise

From Tim Jones

Mr Gwynfor Evans, president of Plaid Cymru, said yesterday he would go on hunger strike in the autumn if the Government does not honour its promise made before its election to set up a Welsh-language service on the fourth television channel.

Mr Evans, who is already refusing to pay his television licence, said he would make the stand because he had never known "so blatant a political act of anti-Welshness, nor one whose consequences will be so dire", as the decision, which his party claims the Government had made, to drop plans for such a channel.

Since the start of the campaign for a Welsh fourth channel hundreds of people in Wales have been fined or imprisoned for refusing to pay for television licences or for damaging transmitting equipment.

Mr Evans said: "This is a travesty of a specific promise sums up the Government's attitude to the whole life of Wales and the future industrial, economic and social development.

Mr Gwynfor Evans accepted that Mr Williams had introduced a house rule imposed by Mr Harold Williams at the Merchant Arms public house in Wrexham, contravened the Sex Discrimination Act 1975.

Mr Williams told the court he did not consider it ladylike for women to drink pints in his lounge and said if they wanted to drink like men they should go to the public bar or skittle alley.

Miss Susan Corke, a shoe shop manager, said she felt

embarrassed and humiliated when she was told by Mrs Rose Williams, the landlord's wife, that if she wanted to drink pints of beer or lager to the pub.

The NGA said in London yesterday that there had been no notice of resignation.

The motion stated: "This conference deplores the attacks by the present Government on the rights of women, for instance the right to live in the United Kingdom with a foreign husband, the right to maternity grants, together with a whole range of cuts in public expenditure, which will force women back into their homes."

"It calls on the national executive to organize the strongest possible campaign against these discriminatory and oppressive policies."

The hospital said that he

Mr Sillars, the Labour rebel, is to join SNP

By Our Political Reporter

Mr James Sillars, former Labour MP for Ayrshire, South, and a leader of the breakaway Scottish Labour Party, is to join the Scottish National Party.

حاجة الى اجراء



Inside your head is a substance that's far more valuable than North Sea Oil.

It's called grey matter. And that, not oil, is our greatest natural asset.

After all, it's going to have to solve the problems that will remain when the oil runs out.

Fortunately brain power is one commodity that Britain isn't short of.

At ICI we have people who are making fuel from industrial wastes, turning natural gas into animal feed, pioneering new fertilizers and pesticides to help the world grow more food, inventing tough new plastics that will save weight, therefore petrol, in cars and developing drugs for

millions of heart sufferers. Projects in the true tradition of the Pathfinders.

Altogether we have over 13,000 people permanently engaged in research which is an enormous investment. But it's an investment that comes out of our world-wide earnings, not out of the taxpayer's pocket.

In fact, last year our exports were well over £1000 million, a lot of money to earn for Britain. It just goes to show the value of that substance inside your head.



The Pathfinders
Investing in research for Britain.

HOME NEWS

Tameside can abolish grammar schools but ILEA move fails

By Diana Giddes
Education Correspondent

The Government has decided to allow Tameside to abolish its five remaining grammar schools, but to refuse the Inner London Education Authority permission to close or amalgamate Highbury Grove comprehensive school in Islington.

The decision, which was forecast in *The Times* on April 18, is in line with the expressed determination of Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, to follow, where possible, local parental wishes. He has always insisted that the Conservatives are neither pro-selective nor anti-comprehensive as such.

In Tameside, Mr Carlisle's approval of the Labour-controlled council's plans for five grammar schools and 13 secondary modern schools to become 16 comprehensive schools for 11 to 16-year-olds and two sixth-form colleges, brings to an end a saga which began 15 years ago.

Plans for ending selection in Tameside schools were first put forward in 1965 and resubmitted in a revised form by the new Labour council after local government reorganization in 1974. All schools were due to go comprehensive in September 1976 but the Conservatives threw out the plans when they came to power in May 1976.

An attempt by the Labour government of the day to force Tameside to go ahead with comprehensive reorganization was ruled unlawful by the House of Lords in August 1976. When Labour returned to power in Tameside last May they immediately resubmitted plans for abolishing all selection by next September.

In the local government elections last week Labour increased its majority on the council from 18 to 35. Councillor Roy Oldham, leader of the council, said yesterday that he was delighted that the years of uncertainty had been brought to an end.

Anger over closure of quango

By Our Education Correspondent

The Government's decision to close the Centre for Information and Advice on Educational Disadvantage has provoked a furious response from Mr Max Morris, chairman of the centre's governing body.

Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, first announced the Government's intention to close the centre in November last year. Continued grant aid from the Government to the centre, a "quango", which this year amounts to £312,000, would not provide value for money he said.

He agreed to reconsider his decision, however, after vociferous protests from Mr Morris and others. But Mr Morris said yesterday that the reconsideration had been "entirely spurious".

"An institution devoted to helping disadvantaged children has been deliberately and cruelly murdered by a callous and cynical government department."

Announcing his decision in a Commons written reply yesterday, Mr Carlisle said he had given careful consideration to the representations he had received from the centre's governors and others. Examinations are threatened. Urgent action is needed to safeguard school examinations on the TUC's day of action on May 14. Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said yesterday (the Press Association reports).

Teachers strike at 24 schools

Nearly 8,000 Nottinghamshire schoolchildren missed lessons yesterday as 240 teachers from 24 schools went on strike in the continuing dispute over class sizes. The teachers will return to work on Friday.

Last week more than 1,300 children were sent home after 44 teachers were suspended for refusing to take classes of more than 30.

Man alleges police assault

Mr Francis Dalzell told Liverpool County Court yesterday that he could hardly walk after being beaten by police when he would not admit to an offence.

He was thrown into a cell, stripped to his underpants and punched and kicked until he confessed, he said. Mr Dalzell, aged 28, of Lawrence Road, Tue Brook, Liverpool, is claiming damages for injuries he received at Heaton Road police station in July, 1978.

Mr Michael Middleton, its director, said that contrary to widespread belief the trust received no government assistance. It was an independent charity founded by a group of public spirited companies and had been maintained entirely by voluntary contributions during

the 23 years of its existence.

The number of subscribers and the size of their contributions had grown steadily, but they had not kept pace with inflation. The trust was carrying out greatly expanded duties with appreciably less purchasing power than at the time of its foundation in 1957, Mr Middleton said.

"We have no empire-building aims. But there are a lot more things we would like to do, and inflation is crippling us."

There appears to be no shortage of support. Already 20 of

Minister's refusal to allow extra recruitment this session 'a mistake,' du Cann letter says

Ban on new Commons subcommittees angers Tory MP

By Peter Hennessy

The power of the 14 new House of Commons select committees to establish subcommittees serviced by extra support staff has become the subject of a private and outspoken correspondence between Mr Edward du Cann, Conservative MP for Taunton and chairman of the Liaison Committee, representing all select committee chairmen, and Mr Norman St John-Stevens, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Leader of the House.

Mr St John-Stevens has refused to allow the creation of new subcommittees or the recruitment of additional staff for them during the present session of Parliament and has suggested to Mr du Cann that the

matter might be looked at in the next session. Mr du Cann is deeply dissatisfied with Mr St John-Stevens' response and says in a letter of reply; dated April 17: "It is a mistake not to allow those select committees which wish to establish subcommittees to do so. In my private opinion it is probable rather than possible that the committees concerned will table motions which the House will pass. I would feel bound to support them and so I am sure would every member of the Liaison Committee. I think the proposals I put to you in my letter were eminently reasonable and modest, and I shall be very glad indeed to study look at the matter again."

The stimulus for the exchange of letters was the desire of the Scottish affairs, Welsh

affairs and defence committees to establish subcommittees. At present the only three committees which have such a right are Treasury and Civil Service, chaired by Mr du Cann, home affairs, and foreign and commonwealth.

The Liaison Committee supported the wish of the Scottish and Welsh committees to have two subcommittees, only one of which would be active at any one time. The committee also approved a request from Sir John Langford, chairman of Conservative MP for Shrewsbury and Amble, for a subcommittee and adequate support staff to service it.

Mr du Cann wrote to Mr St John-Stevens accordingly on

March 6 and April 1. In his reply, dated April 15, Mr St John-Stevens said: "I fully recognize the problems that are posed for all these committees, particularly perhaps that on Scottish affairs by their wide ranging responsibilities. My concern however is on consideration is that, bearing in mind the procedure committee's recommendations regarding the establishment of further permanent subcommittees at this stage, it would be advisable for the House to let the matter stand for the time being, and to reconsider the overall position, and the possible need for further subcommittees, next session."

As you will appreciate, it is necessary to take into account not only the cost of establishing new subcommittees, but also the potential effect on

departments of their establishment. I believe we should be in a better position next session to judge in the light of experience how the present structure is developing and whether it might be modified or extended without placing unreasonable burdens on already heavily stretched departments."

In response to the 1978 report of the Select Committee on Procedure, the Government last autumn established 12 new select committees to monitor the work of Whitehall departments and two committees for Scotland and Wales. The liaison committee is the negotiating body for the committees with the Government and the House of Commons Commission which dispenses money for staff support and travel.

Around the world in 21 days at 30,000 ft

By Frances Gibb

The first attempt to fly non-stop around the world in a hot-air balloon, taking not 80 but 21 days, is to be made this autumn by a British team of four.

They will attempt a trip of 20,000 nautical miles, more than seven times longer than the record of 2,700 nautical miles set when two Americans beat the British in crossing the Atlantic in a hot-air balloon in 1978.

Mr Donald Cameron, one of the two who attempted the Atlantic crossing and one of the designers of the balloon to be used this time, will be one of those trying a new kind of ballooning at high altitudes. He and his colleagues will live in a self-contained pressurized capsule, or gondola, 15ft by 9ft, with an oxygen supply which will enable them to travel at between 30,000 and 55,000ft.

"What it means is that instead of drifting with the weather system, we can go above it and gain speed. More than a thousand lives are at risk in London each year because of an acute shortage of ambulances," according to a report published yesterday.

The

London Ambulance Service is 500 below its establishment strength of 2,400. It should answer 50 per cent of calls within seven minutes and 55 per cent within 14 minutes, but because of staff shortages, only 32 per cent are answered in seven minutes.

The

18 per cent deficit means that 111,590 calls are not answered in the time specified and assuming that only 1 per cent of those are serious, 1,000 lives are at risk, the report says.

The

report, drawn up by the service's conveners committee, predicts that the shortage of staff will reach a crisis in the summer when annual holidays are taken. The authors say that the service will be understaffed then by 35 per cent.

The

public expenditure cuts and, in particular, the closure of 17 accident and emergency departments in London during the past 12 years have also affected the service. Emergency patients have to be taken farther and ambulances take longer on each call.

In

addition, many hospitals close their accident departments when no beds are available. One in London last month, 17 accident departments were closed temporarily.

The report says that the service has difficulty in recruiting staff because it is the least well paid of the essential services. The weekly pay of an employee with 15 years service based on a 40-hour week for the police, fire brigade and ambulance is, respectively: £128, £111 and £79. The estimated pay contains an element for the annual allowance received.

The second terminal at Gatwick airport, which would cost £110m, is "merely a stop-gap measure pending the development of the third London airport", the public inquiry by the British Airports Authority into the planned terminal is to be told.

In its evidence published yesterday, the Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign asks: "Is this a sensible way to spend what is, in effect, our money? We believe that the BAA is moving towards a gross over-provision of airport capacity in the South-East."

The proposal of the authority would result in the airport continuing much more closely to the north, the campaign said. The authority had recently acquired more than 200 acres to the east of the airport, but could say about its future use only that it would be used partially for car parking.

Although the proposed expansion would make life much worse for those who live near the airport, no consideration had been given to them.

The evidence would show, the Gatwick campaign said, that the Department of Trade was failing seriously in its obligations to those who lived under or near the flight paths. The complaint procedure was inadequate, there was no effective monitoring and there were frequent infringements, and no steps had been taken to improve the monitoring system.

There were two main areas of concern on the railways that were causing trouble for his members. One was the mob violence of Neasden in north London, where a near riot took place when rival gangs of youths clashed late at night in the Underground station, and the daily assaults on railway staff.

No effective training scheme could be provided by any existing charitable agency, so academics, fund raisers, conference organisers and the like, the campaign said, should all play a part in devising a training syllabus, Mr Mullin says.

Describing the Charity Commission as "a worthy body, but with an inbuilt lack of vision", he suggests that its membership and staff is too unadventurous and security-conscious to have the necessary understanding of a "risk-taking sector".

The chief commissioner should be recruited from outside the Civil Service, which would have the effect of attracting other staff with experience of accounting, management and communications.

Paying tribute to the commission's "considerable achievement in checking and excluding abuse" among the many thousands of charities in Britain, Mr Mullin points out as evidence of the way it has been starved of resources, that fewer than 1 per cent of all charity account are checked by each year.

He urges that a tax deduction system should be introduced in Britain for gifts to charities, as in the United States. Although the period over which contributions to charities can be made had been reduced, covenanting was dawnting because it limited the range of choices and was intractable. A tax deduction system, however, was "adaptable, attractive and easily intelligible."

Present Arms—On the Corruption of Philanthropy, by Redmond Mullin, Philatlon Publishing, 318 Summer Lane, Birmingham B19 3RL, £2.95.

Charities 'not exploiting resources efficiently'

By Jacob Ecclestone

An "alarming absence" of reliable information means that charities in Britain are not exploiting their resources efficiently, it is claimed. Since those resources are running at more than £2,000m a year, it is necessary for the Government to take on the responsibility, Mr Redmond Mullin, a former director of information at the Charities Aid Foundation, says in a study published today.

Greatly improved training was required for both staff and voluntary workers in the charity field. In addition, there should be higher recruitment standards and a proper career structure.

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Describing the Charity Commission as "a worthy body, but with an inbuilt lack of vision", he suggests that its membership and staff is too unadventurous and security-conscious to have the necessary understanding of a "risk-taking sector".

"Our findings are not conclusive," she said. "But one has to bear in mind that the evidence occurring here and there, albeit shakily, is pointing in the same direction."

Mr Jenny Martin, who carried out the biochemical tests for the company's survey, echoed Mr Jenkins's worries about complacency.

"Our findings were not conclusive," she said. "But one has to bear in mind that the evidence occurring here and there, albeit shakily, is pointing in the same direction."

Mr Jenkins, general secretary of the ASTMS, has objected to the way the executive's Employment Medical Advisory Service (EMAS) had made known its assessment to the employees. It had presented its findings to a meeting but had left the issuing of invitations between chlorogenic chemicals and heart disease. Last week 21 of its members had tests for heart and liver conditions.

No union officials were in-

New plea to GPs on under-16 pill

By Our Health Services Correspondent

Doctors will still be allowed to prescribe contraceptives to girls under 16 without their parents' knowledge or consent under proposals issued yesterday by the Department of Health and Social Security.

Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister for Health, said in the House of Commons that if doctors insisted on telling a girl's parents about her request for contraception, many young people would decide not to seek professional advice at all.

He said that the present guidelines did not give sufficient emphasis to the vital importance of parental responsibility. He hoped that any doctor approached by a person under the age of 16 would try to persuade them to involve the parents.

A doctor should proceed from the assumption that it would be most unusual to provide advice for individuals without consultation with the parent or guardian, he said.

It is, however, widely accepted that consultations between doctors and patients are confidential and I accept the importance doctors attach to this principle."

If the principle were abandoned, many young people would not seek advice and would be exposed to the immediate risks of pregnancy and of sexually transmitted disease, as well as other long-term physical, psychological and emotional consequences.

In these circumstances, the aim of ensuring stable family life would in no way have been furthered," Dr Vaughan therefore accepted the occasional possibility that contraception would be provided without parental knowledge or consent, and that it was a matter for clinical judgment.

The British Medical Association welcomed the Government's proposals.

The Government's decision to review the guidelines was announced by Mr Patrick Leigh, Secretary of State for Social Services, at the BMA's annual conference last June after complaints from parents' groups and MPs that they were too lax.

Headmaster freed

Charges against Mr Roy Bemrose, aged 51, head of Sidcup County primary school, south-east London, of indecently assaulting two girl pupils aged 10 and 11, were dismissed at Bexley Magistrates Court yesterday.

The Royal Air Force's last master pilot holding a flying appointment, John Walker, aged 55, retired at RAF Odiham, Hampshire, yesterday. He has been for some years the only non-commissioned flying instructor in the RAF.

Bar dinner put back

The annual dinner of the Senate of the Inns of Court and the Bar has been postponed to June 17 because of the threat of public transport on May 14, the TUC's proposed "Day of Action".

He claims at Airdrie Sheriff Court that the haircut left him with a stubble about an eighth of an inch long and that after being acquitted he spent two months at home because people laughed at his hair and he could not get jobs for which he applied.

Dr Urmil Hands, who ordered the haircut, told the court yesterday that every year more than 150 inmates at the centre had their hair cut. It was done in Mr Kerr's case because he had head lice.

Judgement was reserved for six weeks.

Young man sues minister over a short haircut

From Our Correspondent

Airdrie

Thomas Kerr, aged 18, who was given a haircut while on an eight-day remand at Longridge remand centre, near Coombridge, Stirlingshire, is suing Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, for £1,000 compensation.

He claims at Airdrie Sheriff Court that the haircut left him with a stubble about an eighth of an inch long and that after being acquitted he spent two months at home because people laughed at his hair and he could not get jobs for which he applied.

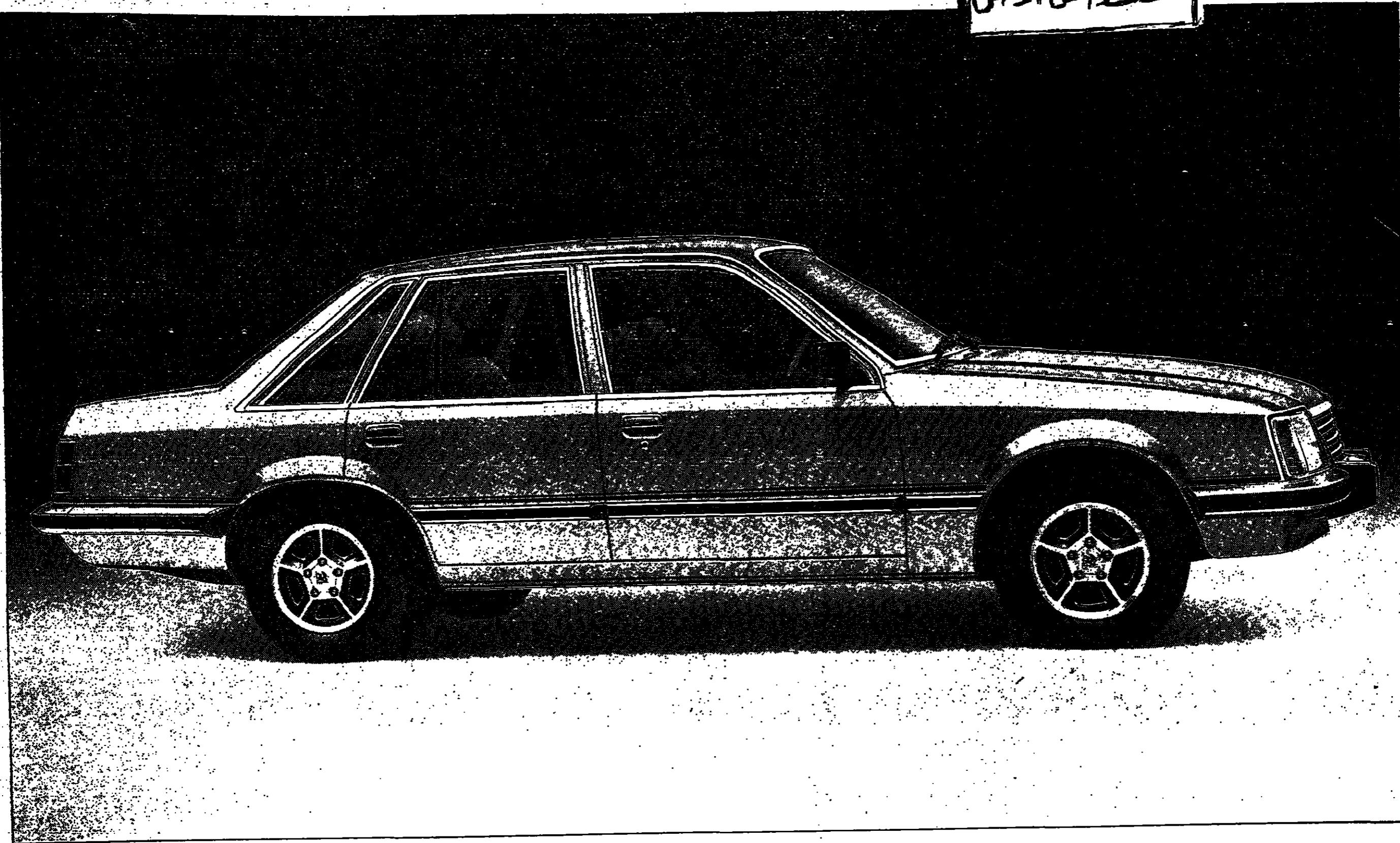
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Unions seek dioxin health tests

By Lucy Hodges

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Have you noticed how luxury, like beauty, is often only skin deep?

If you're easily seduced by thick carpets and comfy seats, there are any number of 'luxury' cars to choose from.

If, however, you believe there's more to luxury than meets the eye (or for that matter, the posterior), the list of candidates rapidly shrinks.

Two cars that bear closer scrutiny are the Vauxhall Royale Saloon and Royale Coupé. Their distinctive looks owe as much to the science of the wind tunnel as to the art of the designer.

Both cut through the air with the minimum of turbulence and, as a result, with minimal wind noise.

A tapered, sloping bonnet and, below the bumper, an air dam reduce aerodynamic lift at speed and underline

the cars' remarkable stability and impressive roadholding.

Even the door mirrors are specially contoured to deflect spray and dirt away from the side windows.

Road noise, too, is suppressed not just by layers of insulation, but by the suspension itself.

Springs and shock absorbers, for example, have been

The engine, a silky 2.8 litre 140 bhp six-cylinder unit, is additionally steered by two diagonally positioned hydraulic dampers for further smoothness.

And automatic transmission is, of course, standard on both cars (with manual available at no additional cost).

Inside, the Royale is one of the few cars that allows the driver to achieve not just a good driving position, but the ideal one.

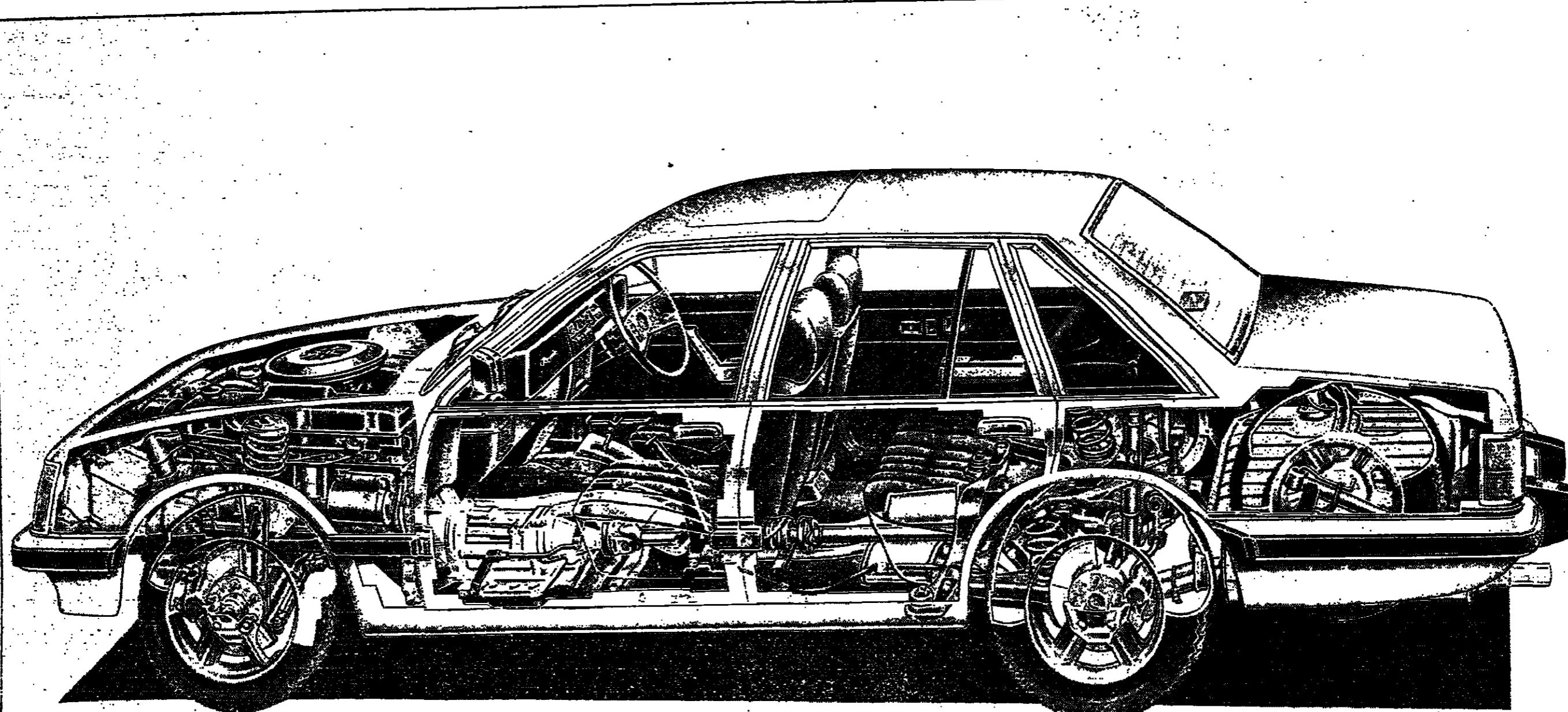
You can adjust the driver's seat for height, as well as for reach and rake and the steering wheel is tiltable.

As you'd also expect, the steering is powered.

Examine a Royale at your nearest Vauxhall dealer, and don't simply be seduced by the lavish specification.

You'll find it's one of the few cars where luxury is more than just a question of appearances.

AIR CONDITIONING IS THE ONLY OPTIONAL EXTRA AT £225. SALOON £10.169, COUPÉ £10.547. PRICES, CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS, INCLUDE CAR TAX AND VAT. DELIVERY AND NUMBER PLATES EXTRA.



VAUXHALL
ROYALE

WEST EUROPE

Nato plans for Europe in case US switches its troops to the Gulf

Washington, May 6.—The Western alliance is going to make plans for replacing American troops in Europe in case the United States decides to send those troops to the Gulf. Dr Joseph Luns, the Nato Secretary-General, said today.

Dr Luns, after talks with State Department and Pentagon officials, said the contingency plans would be drawn up, probably by a special Nato committee, "in case the Soviets try to grab the Gulf oil". He described the threat as "hypothetical at this moment".

Dr Luns made the statement after conferring with President Carter at the White House. It was presumed they had also discussed the Nato conference in Brussels next week.

The issue was brought to the Nato allies by Mr Robert Komer, Assistant Secretary of Defence, who outlined United States contingency plans for defending the Gulf two weeks ago in talks with the other allies.

"The difference between the United States and the other allies", Dr Luns said, "is that only the United States has the means to react militarily to the Gulf, even if Nato were to be extended to that area, which I would not recommend."

The countries of Europe, he

said, "would be able to hold the line in Western Europe".

"It may well be that the nations of Europe may have to shoulder a heavier load... to take up the slack", he said.

American officials, speaking privately, insisted there were no plans to move United States land forces from Europe into the event of an emergency.

"They said the United States might move naval units, airforce, and United States based in Europe, into the Gulf region.

In an emergency, those forces might otherwise be used to reinforce the European theatre.

—UPI and AP.

Bremen battle: Bremen police tonight fought thousands of demonstrators who set fire to vehicles and tried to storm their way into a military swearing-in ceremony attended by President Karl Carstens.

Police said a soldier was critically burned when demonstrators threw a petrol bomb into a military bus. They also set two other buses and a number of cars ablaze.

At least 20 people, including policemen, soldiers and some of the 7,000 demonstrators, were hurt in the fighting in front of the Weser soccer stadium where the German, marking its 25 years of West German membership, was held.—Reuters

Five German women caught in raid on Paris flat

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, May 6

French police have arrested Fräulein Sieglinde Hoffmann, aged 35, who has been wanted for questioning about the July 1977 murder of Herr Jürgen Ponto, chairman of the board of the Dresden Bank.

Fräulein Hoffmann, who is said to have connexions with the Baader-Meinhoff Red Army Group, was arrested last night in her Paris apartment.

Fräulein Ingrid Barabaz, aged 20, another West German woman also sought on an international arrest warrant, was caught in the flat. Later three other women, apparently of

Brittany holiday bookings hit by tanker disaster

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, May 6

Hotel-keepers in the area of the northern Brittany coast affected by oil from the wrecked tanker *Tanio* in March say that their bookings for the summer season are down by up to 40 per cent.

The pollution along the coast, although concentrated in a small area, was thick and pictures of oil oozing on to the shore provided bad publicity. The fear that more oil, still trapped on board the front section of the ship which is lying 30 miles offshore, would affect the beaches played a part in the cancellations.

The work of pumping the oil out of the wreck is due to begin in June. Meanwhile the French Government has allocated 790 million francs (about £82m) to build 11 natural vessels and three aircraft to keep watch for possible oil pollution.

Paris Opéra contracts a rewarding marriage to a lively Italian partner

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, May 6

A unique "marriage" took place here this morning in the tiled rooms of the Palais Garnier. The bride was the Paris Opéra, which has been something of a sleeping beauty in the postwar years, and the groom was La Scala, the dashing Italian prince of music.

The dowry was provided by the French Government, which has agreed to raise the subsidy of the bride this year from 165m francs (about £16m) to 175m francs. The matchmaker was M. Bernard Lefort, now director of the Aix-en-Provence Festival, who takes over as administrator of the Paris Opéra next September.

At today's ceremony, when the rich cream velum contract was signed by M. Lefort and his opposite number at La Scala, Signor Carlo Maria Badini, the marriage was blessed by M. Jean-Philippe Locat, the French Minister of Culture, and it was made fairly obvious that in years to come the bride intends to wear the trousers.

The contract means that both organisations will share each other's productions, but it is to go much further than that. The singing and dancing schools of both will collaborate and exchange pupils and teachers. A mutual "studio" of baroque music will be formed and the partners are to commission two works, one French and one Italian, from famous composers for presentation in the 1984 and 1985 seasons.

Most significant, though, in the light of the high honorariums and fees which opera and ballet stars now command, the partners are to tell each other everything about their finances and payments, so that artists will not be able to trade one partner off against the other.

M. Lefort made it clear that, as with any other marriage, no end to the contract was

Giscard talk fails to convince farmers

From Ian Murray Paris, May 6

President Giscard d'Estaing, in his hour-long broadcast last night, tried to reassure French farmers that their income would be guaranteed and that they would soon benefit from the 5 per cent price rise agreed by every EEC country except Britain.

The reassurance, however, failed to convince farmers in Alsace, who turned out to demonstrate in force today against Britain. Yet another straw-stuffed effigy of Mrs Thatcher was burnt this time in the square by the European Parliament.

President Giscard said last night that the "means" were available to ensure that French farmers would receive the 5 per cent increase, plus the advantages of a devaluation of the "green" franc, and he said he would keep his promise to maintain their buying power in the year ahead.

The President never went into details on the point, however, and merely said that French farmers would be guaranteed a 10 per cent rise which would maintain their buying power. *Le Monde* today asked how this promised 10 per cent could be expected to cover an expected 13 per cent rise in the cost of living over the year.

Preoccupations such as this caused farmers round the country to demonstrate today in various places.



Mr Peter Walker (right), the Minister of Agriculture, talks with M. Pierre Mebaignerie (centre), his French colleagues and Mr Finn Olay Gundelach, the European Commissioner in charge of agriculture, before their meeting in Brussels yesterday.

EEC budget talks are to be reconvened

From Michael Hornsby Brussels, May 6

Fresh efforts are to be made to resolve the intractable dispute over Britain's contribution to the European Economic Community budget, with the aim of getting the matter disposed of before the Nine's next summit meeting in Venice on June 12 and 13.

The news emerged at a meeting of EEC foreign ministers here today—the first since Mrs Thatcher turned down the budget solutions proposed by the other heads of government in Luxembourg at the end of last month.

Both President Giscard d'Estaing of France and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, said after the summit they did not want to discuss the budget issue again.

Sir Ian Gilmour, the Lord Privy Seal, agreed with the other foreign ministers that every effort should be made to get agreement at the normal level of the Council of Ministers, so that the heads of government would not need to do more than give their political blessing.

An equally low-key atmos-

Coup plan just gossip Spanish colonel says

From Harry Debelius Madrid, May 6

One of two Spanish police officials accused of conspiracy in conjunction with a plan to hold Señor Suárez, the Prime Minister, hostage and force a change of government, told a court martial here today that the alleged plot was "nothing more than a conversation over a cup of coffee".

Lieutenant-colonel Antonio Tejero Molina, of the paramilitary Civil Guard, made the statement while giving evidence in his own defence.

He said in response to previously published statements by Government officials that a coup d'état was impossible, and those taking part in the coffee-table conversation disagreed with that opinion and drew up the outlines of a hypothetical coup.

The other man accused of the conspiracy, known as "Operation Galaxy" (the name comes from the cafeteria where the alleged plotters met), is Captain Ricardo Sáenz de Iñestillas of the National Police.

The military trial began at 10 am in a white-walled courtroom at the headquarters of the Madrid military district.

Captain Sáenz de Iñestillas did not give evidence because he has refused to present a defence. The court rejected his request to call certain high government officials and military men as witnesses.

According to military court procedure here a verdict and sentence were not expected to be announced immediately.

They have to be approved by higher military authority to be legally binding.

Prudential profile No. 3: Kenneth Fleet reporting

John Powell, Head of Prudential Management Services, shows Kenneth Fleet, leading financial journalist and City Editor of the Sunday Express, some of the hardware behind the Prudential's "computer revolution".

"Computers mean even better service for 8 million Prudential policyholders."

John Powell, Assistant General Manager, Management Services

The Prudential has been among the first to recognise the crucial role computers can play in more efficient administration, and has made a massive investment in advanced technology.

Kenneth Fleet talks to John Powell, at the centre of the Prudential's "computer revolution".

Fleet: You have led me through the finest Victorian Gothic facade in London into the twentieth century world of computers. The Prudential, I understand, was a pioneer in processing data by machine.

Powell: This company was a leader in the computer revolution. We installed our first computer in 1961. The first punch card machine was installed in 1919.

Fleet: You have this gleaming array of costly machines. What does computerisation actually do for the Prud's eight million policyholders?

Powell: It buys them a better deal for the premiums they entrust to us. The reason we use computers is to make our business more economical and effective. With costs always rising, we need to spend as little as possible of policyholders' premiums on administration. Computers also help speed up the payment of our policyholders' claims and answering queries.

Fleet: Will that unique character, "The Man from the Pru", your 13,000 field staff, learn to love the computer?

Powell: Computers are becoming cheaper and smaller all the time. With our research programme, I foresee a time when we shall bring many of these advantages to our selling staff.

Fleet: Are there also benefits for head office staff?

Powell: They have to deal with a frightening amount of paper work. Computers help significantly to cut wastage in materials and manhours, and increase job interest.

The improving cost of performance of computing will enable us to process not just numeric data but textual data and we can expect to merge speech into the same network.

I am looking forward to the time when Prudential offices will be using computers as a huge filing system and communications network. This will not only support the company's administration but produce and disseminate correspondence and management reports.

We are fast entering a new era of computer usage. We can and should use the computer's capabilities to improve job interest, while continuing to improve our efficiency.

Fleet: Senior managers sometimes see computers as expensive toys. Is this true with you?

Powell: No. Computers are serious business and not a game. A large proportion of the company's records are stored on computers. This data is an asset second only in value to our staff. It is vital to management in decision-making as well as in running this vast business.

Computers give management the opportunity to look at the future of our business, its potential.

Fleet: What has this massive transplant of computer technology cost?

Powell: The Prudential has invested £20 million in the computer centre and we are currently spending close

to £10 million a year on computing in all its various aspects.

Fleet: What other plans have you?

Powell: Our development programme is substantial. A major priority is a new, large processor which will be installed in July. This will make it possible for many Prudential staff to have access to a computer and write their own computer programs. We are also developing on-line systems to give branch offices instant computer facilities. Our policyholders and anyone interested in the range of insurance policies the Prudential offers will have their queries answered speedily. A company relying on existing postal services will simply not compete.

Fleet: One last question. Is the faceless computer about to take the place of the friendly face of the Man from the Pru?

Powell: Over my dead body.

The Prudential's annual report is now available from the Publicity Department, Prudential Assurance Company Limited, 142 Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH.

Prudential
You don't know the half of it.

OVERSEAS

South African black activist slips out of police control

From Ray Kennedy

Johannesburg, May 6
South African police have launched an urgent investigation into how one of the country's black activists has slipped out of their grasp into independent Lesotho.

Mr Theophile Botha, leader of the Port Elizabeth Civic Action Organization (Pebo), had been sitting on pavements in the city, quietly selling fruit and vegetables, since February, when a five-year banning order was served on him.

At the weekend he left his potted and upholstered with the aid of porters crossed into Lesotho. Police said today they expect to make arrests.

Later last year Mr Botha began to emerge as a volatile Black Consciousness leader in Port Elizabeth, which is the centre for South Africa's motor industry.

At the Ford motor plant, where he was a trained draughtsman, Mr Botha led a walkout by black workers after whites complained that blacks were abusing integrated facilities and that they were underpaid, had no trade unions and had adopted threatening attitudes towards white super-visors.

Ford, which claims to be in the forefront of progressive industrial relations in South Africa, suspended Mr Botha. Strikes by black workers spread to two other plants.

The strikes were resolved after two months of negotiations over blacks' demands. The blacks

claimed, for instance, that short-time working affected only them and that they were on the losing end when annual bonuses were calculated.

Meanwhile Mr Botha, as chairman of Pebo, was involved in objections by blacks to being moved from Walmer township, which is close to the centre of Port Elizabeth and therefore their jobs, to a new location 12 miles outside the town.

Early in January Mr Botha called for a city-wide strike against the relocation plan. Police arrested Mr Botha and two other Pebo officials. The police were then sent into the township and used tear gas to prevent threatened demonstrations against the arrests and the forced removal.

Mr Botha and his companions were held, without being charged, for seven weeks and on release, in February, they were served with five-year banning orders. A magistrate last month refused to release Mr Botha, reasoning so that he could remain at work at Ford.

Thus he had been squatting daily on the pavements in Zwidu township, Port Elizabeth, to which he was restricted.

His escape to Lesotho probably means a resumption of his activist role. Tonight the police were taking a calm view of the situation. Colonel Gerrit Erasmus, the security police chief in Port Elizabeth said: "We will probably hear from him soon. He will probably phone us or his family."

S African students ready to end school boycott

From Nicholas Ashford

Cape Town, May 6
The three-week boycott of classes by coloured and Indian students appeared to be nearing an end today after a statement by the Committee of 61, a student organization which coordinated the boycott on the Cape peninsula, that they would return to classes, but "not to receive the old, inferior, racist education".

In Natal a meeting of Indian and Coloured high-school pupils also decided to call off their protest against inferior education. A final decision on a return will be taken by the committee on Saturday. Until then the body, which has been remarkably successful in winning the support of parents and teachers, has urged protesters to implement the "alternative education programme" which was devised by students and teachers.

The move back to school came a day after Mr Piegter Botha, the Prime Minister, had employed a judicious mixture of carrot and stick in an attempt to persuade the protesters to call off the boycott. At a press conference yesterday, he told the students to go back to school, saying that no government could allow a country to be harmed by boy-cotts.

At the same time he accepted that Coloured students had "justifiable grievances" pledging to make his personal task to ensure that they were eradicated.

Mr Botha also said he was considering ordering an in-depth inquiry into the segregated-education

system "as a whole". The Government was prepared to accept a programme in which equality in education for all races could be attained as soon as possible within South Africa's economic means.

Coloured political leaders welcomed what they perceived to be the Prime Minister's conciliatory line, noting that Mr Botha had not resorted to force, as had his predecessor, Mr John Vorster, during the black student disturbances in 1976.

The Rev Alan Hendrikse, leader of the Coloured Labour Party, said the Prime Minister deserved a chance to put his words into practice.

But the student leaders made it clear that their intention to end the boycott was not in response to the Prime Minister's statement but because they felt it had achieved for them a number of important gains.

According to the statement by the Committee of 61, these included an "astounding degree of unity, solidarity and discipline" among the pupils involved in the boycott; approval of students to elect their own representatives at all schools and a "new relationship of support and identification" between parents, teachers and students.

Another contributory factor has undoubtedly been the fact that many students were beginning to tire of the boycott. Some had argued that the Committee of 61 should have called it off at the beginning of this week rather than take the risk that students would start

drifting back.

Nicaraguans worried by growth of hardline communism after anti-Somoza uprising

Sandinista revolution begins to pall in business community

From Stephen Downer

Managua, May 6
Thirty-eight weeks after the overthrow of President Anastasio Somoza, whose family dominated Nicaragua for four decades, the country's most powerful forces are deeply divided.

The Sandinista National Liberation Front, whose guerrillas led the anti-Somoza uprising, has failed to convince its allies in the business sector that it is not moving towards communism.

The Sandinistas claim that the revolution they inspired is unique and that they will not repeat the mistakes made by other countries.

However, private businessmen point to a series of recent events as indicating that the Sandinistas, whose ranks include large numbers of non-Marxists, are being dominated increasingly by hardline communists.

They cite the visit to Moscow early last month of Señor Alfonsino Robelo, who formed the

Interior and one of the founders of the Sandinistas in 1961, and Señor Moisés Hassan, Sandinista member of the ruling Junta of Reconstruction. Both signed a document in Moscow which amounted to a declaration of support for the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Later in the month the composition of a 47-member Legislative Council was announced. Its make-up was negotiated between the Junta and the nine-man Sandinista directorate, and the Sandinistas dominate it. The Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, a political party supported by liberal businessmen, was given one seat.

Within the Junta, Señora Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, one of the three non-Sandinistas on the Junta, resigned because of "ill health". She is the widow of Pedro Joaquín Chamorro, editor of the anti-Somoza newspaper *La Prensa*, who was murdered in an early-morning ambush in January, 1978.

Soon afterwards Señor Alfonsino Robelo, who formed the

cooking oil business explained later: "in the past we suffered from United States intervention, but what really seems sad to me is that a country destroyed by war, bankrupted by Somoza, should shake off the influence of United States imperialism only to fall under Soviet imperialism".

Señor Robelo had criticized the Sandinistas on several other occasions. When the country's programme to teach all Nicaraguans to read and write was introduced in late March, he gave a warning that it should not be used to indoctrinate children with communist ideology.

The official Sandinista newspaper *Barricada* published a strong attack on him because of this warning, and another

leading article in the newspaper said that Señor Robelo's supporters "climbed on to the revolutionary ship like rats because Somoza rehomed them".

Señor Enrique Dreyfus, president of the Nicaragua Development Institute, the principal private-sector organization, said in March that he was worried about what was happening in Nicaragua.

"We (in the private sector) are worried because within the Government, within the revolution, there is a large group of Marxist-Leninists. They undoubtedly want to take this revolution as far left as they can", he said.

He said that the Government had failed to make clear precisely what the private sector's role was to be. "The private sector that is here wants to stay, but who is going to risk money when you do not know where you are going?"

He said that the private sector was responsible for 60 per cent of last year's gross national product.

Fifty-four hurt as strikers and police clash in Brazil

São Paulo, Brazil, May 6
Tensions throughout the day between police and anti-Government demonstrators who threw stones and lit fires in the streets here left 54 people injured and 22 under arrest, police and hospital officials said.

The violence yesterday in the São Paulo suburb of São Bernardo began on the thirty-fifth day of a metalworkers' strike outside a church where the workers were meeting.

Senhor Paulo Maluf, the State Governor, said: "This was an urban guerrilla action" while police blamed "outside agitators". Hospital officials said most of the people hurt in the clashes were treated and released, many suffering from tear gas or smoke inhalation.

The violence threatened to become more chaotic today

as police drivers voted to go on strike immediately.

Senhor Romualdo, head of São Paulo's police force, issued a communiqué which accused "radical groups interested in disturbing the peace". Their aim, he said, was to "make innocent victims in order to traumatize the state and the nation".

Tension had been growing in São Bernardo area since tens of thousands of workers began their strike on April 1. Their leaders were arrested.

The violence yesterday began when demonstrators shouted insults against President João Figueiredo and against Senhor Maluf. Metalworkers and their supporters confronted police outside the church where other strikers were trying to stay out.

—UPI and AP.

Carter move to assist the Cuban refugees

From Our Own Correspondent

Washington, May 6

President Carter today set in motion his new "open arms" policy towards Cuban refugees by declaring the state of Florida a disaster area.

This is the first step towards providing financial and other federal assistance to a part of the country which is suffering hardship because of problems beyond its control.

Mr Carter's decision to mobilize federal aid came after a meeting early today with members of Congress from Florida at the White House. The Florida authorities have requested aid from Washington to help house and feed at least 13,000 Cubans

who have arrived in the southern part of the state in recent days.

Mr Karamanlis resigns as Prime Minister

From Mario Modiano

Athens, May 6

Mr Constantine Karamanlis, the Greek Prime Minister and, since yesterday, President-elect, submitted his resignation to his 30-month-old Government to Mr Constantine Tsatsos, the outgoing President.

Mr Karamanlis has already relinquished his seat in Parliament and the leadership of his New Democracy party.

Earlier, he presided over a Cabinet meeting, the first in his present capacity, and requested his ministers to hand in their resignations.

The meeting was suspended while Mr Karamanlis went to the presidential palace. He returned to convey the President's request that the Cabinet should carry on until the next Government is formed.

This is not likely to happen before next week. The parlia-

mentary group of New Democracy, the majority party, which is to elect Mr Karamanlis's successor to the party leadership, is meeting on Thursday.

Friday, President Tsatsos proposes to consult the president of Parliament about the relative strength of the political parties. He will then summon the majority leader and appoint him Prime Minister. The new Cabinet will probably not be sworn in before Monday.

It is believed that the majority have shown no sign of doing so.

A delegation of colliery officials went to the staff compound at 4 am today, accompanied by the police, to tell the miners that they believed there were a considerable number who did not wish to continue the strike.

In his letter of resignation as Prime Minister, Mr Karamanlis paid tribute to Mr Tsatsos for his "decisive contribution to the normal functioning of our democratic system", in its first and difficult period.

Zimbabwe miners' strike goes on

From Frederick Cleary

Salisbury, May 6

About 4,000 black miners are still on strike at the Wankie coal mine in south-eastern Zimbabwe. They walked out on Friday, but Mr Kumbirai Kanganzi, the Minister of Labour, intervened and persuaded them to return to work.

Although 107 were induced to return to work this morning, the majority have shown no sign of doing so.

A delegation of colliery officials went to the staff compound at 4 am today, accompanied by the police, to tell the miners that they believed there were a considerable number who did not wish to continue the strike.

If they wished to return to work, they were free to do so and would be given police protection. As a result the 107 reported for duty at the Number 3 colliery. However, about

Bizarre Hollywood murder trial begins

From Ivo Davis

Los Angeles, May 6

One of the strangest murder trials in Californian history begins here tomorrow as Angelo Buono, charged with being the Hollywood hillsides strangler responsible for murdering 10 young women, faces a preliminary hearing in Los Angeles municipal court.

The prosecution's star witness is his cousin, Mr Kenneth Bianchi, who has already confessed to killing five of the women, many of them prostitutes, in 1977 and 1978.

Three months of testimony involving 150 witnesses is expected to be presented at the hearing. Mr Buono is charged with strangling the women, many of them prostitutes, in 1977 and 1978.

Mr Bianchi has already confessed to the string of murders and implicated his 45-year-old cousin, who runs a car upholstery business in the Los Angeles suburb of Glendale.

He was sentenced to life imprisonment instead of being given the death penalty, after he made a deal with prosecutors in which he promised to testify against his cousin.

In addition to the murder counts, Mr Buono faces a variety of other charges including sodomy, oral copulation with minors, pimping, procuring and conspiracy to commit extortion.

His chief lawyer, Mr James Brustman, says he will ask the judge to close the hearing to the press and public, noting: "We feel that this is the best way to cut down on negative publicity that might prejudice Mr Buono's right to a fair trial."

However, observers here believe the idea of holding the hearing in camera is somewhat ludicrous for two reasons. First, fully five months before Mr Buono was arrested Mr Daryl Gates, the Los Angeles police chief, held well-publicized conferences and announced that Mr Buono was his chief murder suspect.

Then earlier this year many big television stations in California ran long pieces of film on their nightly news showing Mr Bianchi, said to be under hypnosis, repeatedly saying that he and his cousin had gone out and cold-bloodedly murdered their victims.

After the preliminary hearing, Judge Randolph Moore will not rule on innocence or guilt, but will decide whether there is "probable cause" for the defendant to face a full trial, probably before a jury.

The Pope brings message to Kenyan children

From Our Correspondent

Nairobi, May 6

The Pope arrived in Nairobi by air today to a tumultuous, colourful welcome for a 40-hour visit to Kenya.

In a lengthy airport speech he told the children of Kenya that they carried in their hands the power to make their dreams come true. There were squeals of delight from the many schoolchildren who had waited in hot sunshine to see the Pope, when he said that he brought a special greeting for them.

There was great applause when he delivered a Swahili greeting: "Wananchi, we, wapewa (all you people, my friends)".

President Daniel Arap Moi welcomed the Pope, after he had stepped down from an Air Zaire airliner and ceremonially kissed the soil of Kenya. The Pope was flown in from Kisangani, in eastern Zaire, where he had paid homage to the missionaries killed there during the 1960s.

Schoolchildren chanted: "We love the Pope", and African choirs sang songs of greeting to the accompaniment of drums. Singing in Swahili, one choir told the Pope: "Truly you have made Kenya happy".

President Binaisa of Uganda flew here today to meet the Pope, accompanied by Major

Surprise Arafat visit to Iraq

Baghdad, May 6—Mr Yassir Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, arrived in Baghdad from Riyadh today on an unannounced visit to Iraq.

He told the Iraqi news agency that he would hold talks with President Saddam Hussein and other Iraqi officials on the situation in the Arab world and Middle East and Palestinian developments, as well as on current events in the Arab homeland, which is facing ugly imperialist and Zionist challenges.

The Pope used his hat to shield his face from the bright sun as he watched the welcome ceremony. An African policeman held a coloured umbrella to shade him when he made his speech.

He commended Kenyans for preserving their rich cultural identity in a country which he said, had been blessed by peace and by unanimity among its inhabitants.

From the airport, the Pope was driven, standing above the open roof of his car, into the city with large crowds lining the route. He then attended a service at the Holy Family cathedral.

"Painful exceptions": Speaking to the diplomatic corps the Pope said he rejoiced that the colonial period in Africa is now drawing to a close.

The peoples of Africa, with a few painful exceptions, are assuming full political responsibility for their own destiny and I greet here, particularly, the recently achieved independence of Zimbabwe", he said.

"But one cannot ignore the fact that other forms of dependence are still a reality or at least a threat." —AP.

Katmandu, May 6.—The bodies of two French climbers have been found dead on the Baruntse mountain in the Everest region.

OVERSEAS

Japan police braced for rightist violence

From Peter Hazelhurst

Tokyo, May 6

After fighting Japan's radical left-wing Red Army for almost two decades, the Japanese police have been warned to prepare for a possible violent assault by rightwing nationalists.

Mr Shizuhiko Yamamoto, director general of Japan's National Police Agency, is reported to have told senior officers today that he expects fanatical rightists to organize violent demonstrations later this month when Chairman Huo Guofeng of China is due to arrive on his first official visit to Japan.

Senior officers disclosed today that small but dedicated and disciplined groups of rightists have intensified activity against the Government, since Japan and China signed a treaty of peace and friendship in October, 1978. The actions have included an attempt to assassinate Mr Masayoshi Ohira, the Prime Minister.

Small groups of right-wing militants, led by Aikokuto (the Great Patriots' Party), are campaigning to keep Japan out of the Olympics in protest at the Soviet Union's intervention in Afghanistan.

It was a member of Aikokuto who assassinated in 1960 Inejiro Asanuma, the chairman of the Japan Socialist Party, the country's second-largest political group.

Many of Japan's rightists, who admire the Emperor and call for parliament, draw their inspiration from Yukio Mishima, the author, who committed Sepuku (ritual suicide) in November, 1970.

Mishima thrust a sword into his stomach at the Defence Agency's headquarters in Tokyo after failing to persuade members of the armed forces to rise against the Government.

Surinam MPs held after failure of coup

The Hague, May 6.—Several members of Surinam's Parliament were arrested by troops who suppressed a foreign-backed coup last week, according to the country's Prime Minister.

The radio and television announcement by Dr Chin A Sen was the first confirmation from the Surinam Government of the coup attempt, disclosed yesterday by the Dutch Foreign Ministry.

According to the ministry, the insurgents were commanded by Mr Fritz Ormskirk, a Dutchman who had served in the Surinam Army. He was captured and killed after leading mercenaries across the border from French Guiana.

Last night Dr Chin A Sen said one person was killed and a number of people, including some members of the Surinam Parliament, had been arrested. He did not name them.

The Prime Minister said the army had seized rifles, ammunition and explosives. Those arrested would be tried after investigations had been completed.—Reuter.

Wife injured over 2p

Delhi, May 6.—A man chopped off his wife's nose in a fit of rage when she demanded half a rupee (just over 2p), the police reported at Korker, north of Delhi.

Thousands join Assam resistance

From Kuldip Nayar

Gauhati, Assam, May 6

It is an explosion, a human explosion, not an agitator. Thousands of people, mostly women and students, come into the streets every day to offer satyagraha on the lines of Mahatma Gandhi's passive resistance against the British.

It has gone on for seven months and the demand that unites all the participants is that foreigners should be ousted from their state, Assam.

The Assamese feel that they have become a minority in their own state. This is true. If there were a census today, they would form only 42 per cent of the population.

They argue that they are becoming political orphans in their own state because of the

Specially bred basses extend birds' repertoire

Soviet audiences thrill to sound of canary choir's music

From Michael Binyon

Moscow, May 6

For 30 years the citizens of Kharkov have enjoyed concerts of classical music by their local choir, but have had to make do with pieces that did not require a bass voice. The problem was solved only when some of the singers were specially bred to achieve full harmony—an unusual solution, but the choir consists entirely of canaries.

The avian artists have given more than 2,000 performances in local concert halls under their conductor, Fyodor Fomenko, a stage-hand in the Kharkov Puppet Theatre, and more than two million people have enjoyed their warblings.

The tenors and sopranos are

now as fluent with exclamation that they have been joined by fully-fledged basses. Local ornithologists, who have been trying for years to induce some of the leading soloists to sing the lower parts, have succeeded at last with careful crossing and good breeding, in deepening the vocal range of some of the performers.

The birds have a repertoire of more than 80 works. These include local favourites: Glazunov's romance "Doubt"; Alrabyev's "Nightingale", and works by Shostakovich and Kabalevsky. Of the foreign classics, they give full-throated renderings of Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata"; Schubert's "Serenade", and a series of Strauss waltzes.

Their supporters at home include some 700 song-bird lovers who are members of the city's Nature Protection Society. The section chairman, appropriately, is their own trainer and conductor, Fyodor Fomenko.

Indian parties fail to agree on poll pact

From Richard Wigg

Delhi, May 6

The hectic attempts among India's now splintered opposition groups to make an electoral pact for the legislative elections in nine important states later this month have all failed.

None of the groups proved willing to yield even a slim chance of capturing a single seat and Mrs Indira Gandhi's Congress Party will undoubtedly benefit. It is several states it will be the younger-generation followers of Mr Sanjay Gandhi, the Prime Minister's younger son, who will benefit most.

In Uttar Pradesh, India's single most influential state in politics, Mr Gandhi has shown himself a master of the "ticket game"—the caucus room maneuvering to get one's supporters on the party's candidates list and those of one's opponents within the party excluded.

But Mr Gandhi's abrasive style of operating and the underlying displacement of many of the older generation in Uttar Pradesh politicians by younger men, often with little political experience, has caused a revolt among those in other opposition groups.

One proposal was for Lok Dal to fight in 250 of the 425 Uttar Pradesh state assembly constituencies, with the other groups, dividing the rest. Mr Charan Singh derided this as "sacrifice."

But when the final position emerged last night, the Lok Dal party is fielding candidates in no less than 405 constituencies. The Bharatiya Janata party, the one-time Jana Sangh group in the Janata Party, led by Mr A. B. Vajpayee, has put up 377 candidates.

Faced by this stubbornness, two other opposition groups also tried to get together for seat adjustments, but they also failed to make a pact.

Court discharge: Mr Gandhi and 300 others, accused of staging a riot in one of Delhi's principal shopping streets in May, 1979, were today all discharged by a Delhi magistrate. They were protesting against the then Janata Government's setting up of special courts to try alleged offences during Mrs Gandhi's emergency period.

The prosecution declared it was "in the public interest" to withdraw the cases.

With Mr Morarji Desai and Mr Jagdish Ram, the former Janata Party leaders, now in

oblivion, the key figure for stopping the Indira Congress landslide has been Mr Charan Singh, leader of the Lok Dal party. With 40 seats, the party is the biggest opposition group in parliament. Many people want Mr Charan Singh to strike some kind of "devil's bargain" with other opposition groups.

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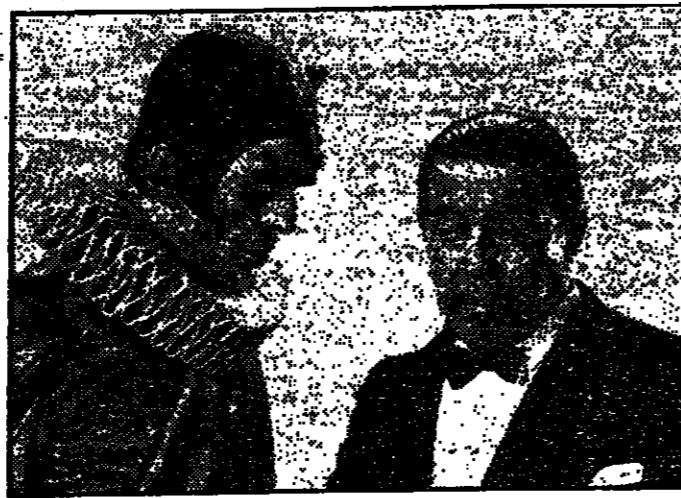


Bernard Levin

Charlie Chan and the curse of the super-prigs

There is more to this story than meets the eye, but I shall begin with the bit that is visible, which is that a film company in the United States is about to make a new film about Charlie Chan. Any reader under a certain age will need an explanation at this point, so I had better stop and give it: Charlie Chan was the name of a film hero of many years ago, who appeared in an immense series of cinema detective stories and later in a similar television series. (The character was played by a number of actors over the years, but the one I remember from my infancy was Warner Oland.) Charlie Chan was the detective who solved all the mysteries which gave him a quality different from that of most other policemen: that was he was Chinese, and this was not just incidental, but the most important thing about the character, who was always beginning sentences "Confucius he say" and harking his conversation with mock-Chinese expletives (like a rather less suave Kai Lung). The only other detail I recall with any certainty was that Charlie Chan had a very large family, and I think a more or less grown-up son who helped him in his cases.

The mood of the films was a blend of comedy and mystery-drama; no doubt it would seem clumsy by today's standards (or not, of course, as the case might be), but no one who saw the films will fail to recapture, on



A fiendishly clever detective of yesteryear: Warner Oland (right) with Boris Karloff in the 1936 film Charlie Chan at the Opera.

thinking about them, the affectionate and admiring atmosphere that surrounded the hero: Charlie Chan was always successful in tracking down the villains, and it was clearly implied that this was because he was Chinese and therefore intellectually superior.

Tempora mutantur, nos et mutamur in illis, particularly the progeny of a many modern breed of censors who are infesting the world, despising the bystanders and terrorising innocent purveyors of entertainment. A gang of these are at present, it seems, working up a protest against the revival of Charlie Chan (the new film is to be called *Charlie Chan and the Curse of the Dragon Queen*, a title in the same form as that of the originals, which were, as I recall, always "Charlie Chan and . . ."), who is being played this time by Peter Sellers (who wrote a special scenario from his present illness). Already, the now-familiar slogans are being provided by Remenob: "Racist stereotype . . . insult to Chinese"; "Chinese don't talk like that"; there is even a Rennenob body, custom-built, for "Chinese for Affirmative Action" (these things spring up overnight like poisonous toads after rain); and there is, of course, the final threat that there will be "demonstrations" if the film-makers persist in their endeavour (they propose to shoot the film in San Francisco, which

is a very large Chinese community); no doubt Chinese-American actors or extras in San Francisco will soon be threatened with reprisals if they take part in it.

I shall discuss the implications in a minute, but now I must reveal the bit that cannot be seen with the naked eye. I have a particular interest in the film because the director, Clive Donner, is my cousin, and indeed when I stopped briefly in San Francisco on my recent trip to Australia we dined together (at a Japanese restaurant, incidentally) and talked

about the film, he being in San Francisco to look at possible locations.

Clive and I are very close; we spent the years of our youth discovering music together, which forged an unbreakable bond. It follows therefore that he who wishes to have a reckoning with my coz will also have to take me on; the combination, I must warn those rash enough to try it, is exceptionally formidable.

But of course you don't have to be a friend of the director to find distasteful such an attitude to such a film. There

really are people, in this country as well as the United States, who spend their time—and lots of other people's money—going about looking for a grievance to have, and indeed encouraging others, who would not have thought of the idea unaided, to do the same.

There are genuine grounds on which minorities, particularly racial ones, have every right to feel aggrieved and to protest against those who have given them cause for complaint. But that does not excuse the grievance-manufacturers.

The worst single example of this I ever encountered directly came in a letter I got, on behalf of a group which included MPs of

different political persuasions, which I was told portayed its hero in such a way that the only feeling it can arouse in its audiences is one of high regard for Chinese sagacity and resourcefulness, but a threat, however small and tangential, to freedom of expression.

The film company could, of course, simply ignore the outcry and make the film. But it might be a hollow victory, because the Remenob protesters are not suggesting that the film cannot legally be made; they are only threatening to make life unbearable for all concerned if it is. On the other hand, if active resistance is contemplated, there is an instrument to hand: I do not know if it has ever been used in something of this kind, but if not it would make a fast-moving case. I refer to the legislation in the United States which makes it an offence—and, for this is the point, a Federal offence—to interfere with someone's civil rights. This was used when the struggle over black voting, education and the like was going on; it even enabled the Federal Attorney-General to proceed against Southern murderers of the Freedom Riders (white Northerners who had gone to

work on behalf of true black emancipation below the Mason-Dixon line). As far as I can see, there is nothing to prevent the film company from taking or instigating legal action, under such legislation, against those who are violating their civil rights—to wit, their right, protected under the First Amendment, to free speech. If it worked, and they won, it might even have the effect of diminishing the size, or even the vociferousness, of the terrible army of bannermen.

But in arguing thus, I fear I am falling into the trap the bannermen have set—that is, I am taking them seriously. *Charlie Chan and the Curse of the Dragon Woman* is designed only to entertain its audiences for an hour or two. And I will wager any sum in Chinese yuan that if it had not been for the contrived indignation it would not have succeeded in that aim, which I hope it will anyway; it would have done so without making a single member of its audiences, whether Chinese or not, feel that it was in any way offensive (let alone consciously so). Have you noticed, by the way, the final hallmark of the Remenob? Not one foot of the film has yet been shot; the protesters have not, and could not have anything whatever to go on, other than their own malignant imaginations. American papers please copy.

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The Jews who lend a worldwide helping hand

ORT is an international organization of which the public knows little. Yet this month it celebrates both its centenary and the fact that it has helped more than two million unskilled people of all religions to become productive workers

Jews are incorrigibly clubbable. Not necessarily the Pall Mall variety (although some are) but rather joiners of committees, and founders of societies, eagerly seizing opportunities to come together for a common purpose. The Jewish Year Book lists hundreds of such religious, cultural, philanthropic and social societies.

Most of them operate exclusively within the Jewish community of Britain, a large number work to support Israeli institutions while a few are local affiliates of international bodies. Nearly all have stories to tell of generosity of effort and of giving and some have noble records of achievement. But they are rarely told—organizational reports are usually a bore—unless an event occurs which propels one of them into the awareness of the public.

Such an event is the centenary of an international organization called ORT which has its headquarters in London. Little known to the general public, its work is of such extraordinary and non-denominational benefit and has manifested such enlightened imagination, that its centenary celebration at the end of this month calls for public recognition and acknowledgment.

The story of ORT is a fascinating microcosm of European Jewish history during a turbulent century. It began in Russia in the year 1880. The mass of the Jewish population, then numbering some four million, was locked into a swathe of the Russian map called the Pale of Settlement. Because of the restrictions imposed on them and the abysmal economic opportunities, most Jews lived in hopeless poverty with emigration offering the only hope of escape. Small business, huckebery and peddling were the staple occupations of most of those who were able to earn a living. But about 25 per cent of the entire Jewish population possessed no

employable skills and lived on whatever casual work or charity that was available.

A few Jewish academics, financiers and entrepreneurs were permitted to reside outside the Pale. One of them was a physiologist at St Petersburg University named Nikolai Bakst. A committed religious Jew and a supporter of the progressive "Enlightenment" movement, he believed that Jews had a future in Russia if only they could be trained to follow useful occupations.

Bakst brought together a small group of leading Jews in St Petersburg to form a society to teach Jews handicrafts and agricultural labour. In Imperial Russia, this kind of thing could not be done without our government approval and, early in 1880, a petition was addressed to the Minister for Interior Affairs requesting leave to create a fund for Jewish charitable purposes.

The petitioner was not Bakst himself—intellectuals were not then particularly popular with the authorities—but one of his group, a successful railway builder named Semul Poliakov who opened the fund with a munificent contribution of 25,000 roubles.

With permission received an appeal was made to the Jews of Russia with spectacular results. Thousands of donations were received and, in the spring of 1880, a Provisional Committee was formed with Poliakov as President. The Russian name

for the new society was *Obschestvo Remeslenaya i zemel'no-delcheskoy trudy sted' evreev u Rossii*, abbreviated (happily) to ORT. Later, the Russian mnemonic was translated to the English title of Organization for Rehabilitation through Training.

By the end of the 1917 revolution, ORT was assisting thousands of Jews in 58 Russian towns and cities. But the Soviet state made no appeal to ORT's leaders, who moved to Paris and, in 1921, created the World ORT Union.

The new international organization, beginning with vocational schools for the seriously disadvantaged Jews of Lithuania, Romania and Poland, became firmly established in the West where it was funded by the more affluent Jewish communities.

The emphasis of the work of the World ORT Union has now moved from Eastern Europe where its operations had become increasingly difficult and, in the end, impossible, to the West and to Israel.

New situations constantly demand more from ORT. Its schools in the Middle East make an immense contribution to the improvement of the conditions of the local Jews and many continue to function even today, even in Iran.

But undoubtedly the most interesting and important development occurred, almost by accident, in 1960. By now well known in international circles for its unique expertise, ORT

had acquired a new Director who had United Nations associations. Through Max Braude, who retires this year, ORT was requested to undertake an inquiry, under United Nations auspices, into the vocational needs of 10 countries south of Sahara. That led to an ORT programme of vocational training in Mali which was conducted by a mostly Israeli staff. ORT's technical assistance activities expanded and now serve no fewer than 24 developing countries.

Now the world's largest private agency for technical education and vocational training, ORT was recently invited to serve the British public for the first time. A year or two ago, it was commissioned by the Borough of Lambeth, to carry out a feasibility study on the possibility of training large numbers of unemployed young people in the borough (a high proportion of them black) in the skills that would qualify them for jobs in today's technological society. How many future Bristolians might be avoided by following this

During its first century, this Jewish founded and Jewish funded organization has helped over two million people, unskilled men and women of all religions and in many lands, to become productive workers. President Carter was not guilty of exaggeration when, in a special proclamation to mark the occasion, he declared,

"Today, as ORT celebrates its centennial, its basic educational network extends to 24 countries and serves 100,000 students in 700 schools. It has helped to lay foundations of individual pride and self-sufficiency all over the world, and the consistent quality of its

work has been an inspiration and an indispensable approach to its resolution.

Three Royal Commissions have concentrated on the point. The first, prompted strongly by the NUJ, offered the answer which two later ones endorsed—a voluntary press council deriving its authority from the press itself and

not from statute, and including both professional and lay members.

The Council's existence is a recognition that a privately and diversely owned press owes a duty to its readers and the public at large as well as to its owners and those who write for it. Part of Mr Ecclestone's complaint is about that ownership and form of ownership; that the Press Council stands in the way (I do not know how) of serious examination of the present system of newspaper ownership and control, or, as he put it in his presidential address to the Union a fortnight ago, "provides the ideological underpinning for our present newspaper and magazine industry".

There will be many among journalists and among readers, who prefer the ideology of a diversely owned press to any of the obvious alternatives.

In its report the last Royal Commission offered three guidelines which are the most succinct criteria for an effective and acceptable press council yet put forward.

First, a basic condition for public confidence is that it be wholly independent of government. I feel safer with that for the line than with Mr Ecclestone's concession that there will be dangers in, and that journalists will be highly suspicious of, anything emanating from Whitehall or Westminster.

The Commission's second guideline was that the Press Council must show a determination to be independent of the press. The public, it said, would not believe that a Council dominated by journalists and others from the press could keep an effective watch on its standards or deal satisfactorily with citizens' com-

A voluntary press council of the British type, copied now by over 20 countries, is an attempt to strike a balance between society's belief in a free press and its demand for a responsible press: an attempt to solve the equation between freedom and accountability. It is a sad decision and an ill-advised one by the National Union of Journalists' annual delegate meeting that the union should contract out of this constructive attempt to hold that membership of the Council.

Despite his membership of the Council, Jacob Ecclestone's article on April 20 betrays two elementary misunderstandings of how it works. Its press members are nominated by organizations of journalists, editors and publishers, but they sit as individuals, not as representatives or delegates of their nominators. There is ample room for argument about how many each press organization should nominate: there can be none that the NUJ nominates more than any other single body and that this proportion has increased from four out of 25 to four out of 13.

If the four withdraw, the parity between press and lay members—18 each—will be temporarily disturbed, but since lay members were introduced in 1963 there has been no example of the Council dividing on "party" lines: lay members on one side and press members the other.

The more surprising and disturbing misconception in his article is that the long-term effect of the NUJ's decision will be to raise publicly the question of accountability and responsibility in the media. One wonders where he has been all these years. The accountability and responsibility of the media has been in issue for at least half a century. Since 1953 the existence of the Press Council has been part of the argument, and the most practical and acceptable approach to its resolution.

Three Royal Commissions have concentrated on the point. The first, prompted strongly by the NUJ, offered the answer which two later ones endorsed—a voluntary press council deriving its authority from the press itself and

plaint. It is even less likely that the public will believe the internal code of conduct and disciplinary procedure of a journalists' trade union—whatever the merits of that code and procedure—can keep such a watch or deal with such complaints.

Part of the demonstration that the Council is not dominated by journalists or the newspaper interest has been its move to an equal number of lay members. There is no golden formula for selecting lay members of press councils—or for voting juries. The council invites nominees and volunteers at large. A broadly based appointment commission selects those to serve, again as individuals not as representatives.

In the meantime, it is true that the Council is at present all white, as was the NUJ Executive over which Mr Ecclestone presided last year, but it is, too, that the Council has conspicuously more women members than that Executive did or ever has had. Mr Ecclestone's assertion that groups who feel themselves discriminated against and disadvantaged by the Press Council remains just that, an assertion.

His other assertion that the Press Council has condemned industrial action by journalists over wages and conditions is untrue. It is surprising, and somewhat depressing, to be told by him at this stage that the critics of the Council's bite—notably Mr Ecclestone himself as well as Sir James Goldsmith et al—will now, only have to come forward with their own ideas.

What are the available stronger sanctions and sharper

Why the press should keep its council

not from statute, and including both professional and lay members.

The Council's existence is a recognition that a privately and diversely owned press owes a duty to its readers and the public at large as well as to its owners and those who write for it. Part of Mr Ecclestone's complaint is about that ownership and form of ownership; that the Press Council stands in the way (I do not know how) of serious examination of the present system of newspaper ownership and control, or, as he put it in his presidential address to the Union a fortnight ago, "provides the ideological underpinning for our present newspaper and magazine industry".

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The Council's existence is a recognition that a privately and diversely owned press owes a duty to its readers and the public at large as well as to its owners and those who write for it. Part of Mr Ecclestone's complaint is about that ownership and form of ownership; that the Press Council stands in the way (I do not know how) of serious examination of the present system of newspaper ownership and control, or, as he put it in his presidential address to the Union a fortnight ago, "provides the ideological underpinning for our present newspaper and magazine industry".

There will be many among journalists and among readers, who prefer the ideology of a diversely owned press to any of the obvious alternatives.

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The more surprising and disturbing misconception in his article is that the long-term effect of the NUJ's decision will be to raise publicly the question of accountability and responsibility in the media. One wonders where he has been all these years. The accountability and responsibility of the media has been in issue for at least half a century. Since 1953 the existence of the Press Council has been part of the argument, and the most practical and acceptable approach to its resolution.

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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

May 6: The Right Hon Margaret Thatcher, MBE (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of the Queen this evening.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, this afternoon visited the Gloucestershire Group at Stroud and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Gloucestershire (Colonel M. St J. V. Gibbs).

The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

Mrs John Dragoole has succeeded the Hon Mrs Morrison as Lady in Waiting to the Queen.

KENSINGTON PALACE

May 6: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, was present at an Evening Reception given by the Worshipful Company of Broderers and the Embroiderers' Guild at Kensington Court Palace.

Mrs. Jane Egerton-Warburton was in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester returned

to Heathrow Airport, London this morning at the conclusion of his visit to China and the United States of America.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

May 6: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present this evening at The Little Picture Show, given in aid of the Mountbatten Memorial Trust, at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

The Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

Prince and Princess Michael of Kent will attend Henley Royal Regatta on July 6 when Prince Michael will present the prizes.

A memorial service for Sir John Methven will be held in Westminster Abbey at noon on Wednesday, June 4. Applications for tickets should be sent to the Conductor of the Memorial Service, 21 Tot Hill Street, London SW1, not later than May 21. Please mark the envelope Memorial Service.

Birthdays today

Professor Sir Philip Baxter, 75; M. A. (Surrey); 1950; DL; Lord Mayor, '59; Sir Charles Dalrymple, 74; Sir Weldon Dalrymple, Champer, '84; Sir Ray Geddes, '68; Professor R. Y. Gooden, 71; Lieutenant-Commander Sir Robert Hobart, 65; Field Marshal Sir Richard Hull, 73; Sir James John, '78; Lord Kirkhill, 50; Sir Edward Luttwak, 62; Leonard Paton, '82; Sir Arthur Shilling, 66; Sir Huw Wheldon, 64.

The Elms with Seaford Court

1st September Seaford Court Preparatory School, Malvern, Worcestershire, will move to The Elms, Colwell. The combined schools' official title will be The Elms with Seaford Court, the headmaster, Mr Andrew Collier, and the assistant headmaster, Mr Geoffrey Milton.

Upcoming marriages

Mr R. A. McWilliam and Mrs K. A. Alfred. The marriage of Robert Alexander, son of Mr and Mrs Alexander G. McWilliam, of Woldingham, Surrey, and Karen Amelie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ralph R. Alfred, of Greenville, North Carolina, will take place in Greenvale on May 31.

Mr H. P. Metzner and Miss E. D. A. Simpson. The engagement was announced between Howard, son of Mr and Mrs Metzner, of Eastbourne, and Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs Arthur Simpson, of Kirk Hammerton, North Yorkshire. The couple are currently residing in Hong Kong.

Mr C. J. Pardoe and Miss J. Chater. The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place on August 16, at St Bartholomew's Church, Wigton, between Charles, only son of Commander and Mrs James Pardoe, of Sobraon, Hampshire, and Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Chater, of Wirksworth, Buxton.

Mr D. S. Carey and Mrs D. C. Sangster. The marriage took place recently between Mr David Carey and Mrs Christine Sangster.

Mr J. D. Flynn and Miss S. L. Maybury. The marriage took place on Saturday, April 26, at the Parish of St Lawrence, Wexford, Ireland, between Mr John Dennehy Flynn and Miss Sarah Lynn Maybury.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr Charles Maybury, was attended by godmothers, Helen Conchman and Beatrix Yarrow. Mr John Hudson was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Today's engagements

The Queen visits International Stamp Exhibition, Earls Court, 5.30.

Princess Anne attends reception for the Carriage Association of America, Royal Mews, 5.30.

The Duke of Kent, as patron, attends concert at Linlithgow Country Club, Linlithgow, 7.15.

The Duchess of Kent attends Newspaper Society's annual dinner, Hilton Hotel, 7.20.

Leicester: What is the British Library? 7.30. National Trust, St. Swithin Street, Drury Lane.

Prague 1600, court of the Emperor Rudolph II, fact and fantasy, National Gallery, 1.

Talks: The butter mountain, Mr Peter Shore, MP, St Lawrence Hall, '70; The Birth of music hall, John Earle, Museum of London, 1.10.

Lunchtime music: Raphael Terroni, piano, St Olave, 1.15; Lloyd's Choir, All Hallows-by-Tower, 1.10; Richard Townend, organ, St Margaret Pattens, 1.10; Michael Barden, organ, St Bride's, 1.15.

Service dinner

5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards

The annual officers' dinner of the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards was held at 30 Pavilion Road, London, SW1, on Friday, May 2. General Sir Cecil Blacker presided, and the Belgian Ambassador attended.

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Solicitors for the Company

In the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1980, in the Matter of DONALDSON TRANSPORTATION Limited in Liquidation, to Section 500 of the Companies Act, Part II, the final account of the company will be laid before the Secretary of State, London, EC2V 7DA, Conference Room, 10th Floor, St. James's Square, London, EC2V 7DR, on June 18, 1980, at 11 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. MEETING OF CREDITORS for the purpose of hearing an account of the business in which the company has been engaged and the property of the company disposed of.

A member or creditor entitled to attend and vote at the meeting may not attend a meeting to attend and vote if he is not a member of the company.

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SPECIAL REPORT

STAMPS

Kenneth Chapman, Philatelic Correspondent, explains the finer points of collecting in this report marking London 1980, the International Stamp Exhibition at Earls Court (May 6-14), which he also reviews on this page

When the unique British Guiana 1856 black-on-magenta stamp was sold at auction in New York last month at a world record price of nearly £40,000 for a single stamp, the public was amazed that a dirty and ugly scrap of paper should be so valuable. Philatelists took the news calmly and carried on with their self-appointed tasks of developing interesting collections of limited scope but of much greater documentary importance than any investment portfolio of rare stamps prepared for a non-philatelist.

Stamps can be an investment, but selective buying is necessary to guarantee a result likely to attract anybody whose interest is in profit and not in the stamps themselves: and, ironically, it is the most dedicated philatelists who create collections that are sound long-term investments, although that was not their aim.

Broadly speaking, the hobby is enjoyed by two distinct groups, each containing people of all ages, classes and nationalities. One group consists of stamp collectors and the other of philatelists—and the distinction is clear. The important thing is that both groups enjoy their respective activities, and therein lies the universal appeal of the hobby.

Small boys and girls who acquire stamps from friends or relatives with overseas postal contacts happily mount their new treasures in inexpensive stamp albums and unconsciously absorb general knowledge about the countries from which the stamps come. The growing number of adults who buy all new stamps issued by the British Post Office—on average there are five special sets on various topics as well as the regular Christmas stamps

Edward Stanley Gibbons: from shop corner to £16m a year trade.

curious was developing into a regular dealing by an office of Edinburgh, a 36-page volume entitled "Magenta and How to Detect Them".

In 1869 a dozen serious collectors formed the Philatelic Society, London. It is now the Royal Philatelic Society and can claim to be the oldest and the most important philatelic organization in the world. Its spacious headquarters near Baker Street house a magnificent library and reference collections.

Advances in philatelic knowledge have inevitably led to specialization and the formation of large societies whose members are concerned only with the stamps and postal history of a single country. For example, the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain has more than 700 members who study the classic issues of the former Canadian provinces, and those of the 1867 Confederation onwards.

Today, Stanley Gibbons International, a quoted company with a turnover exceeding £16m annually, employs more than 400 people. Based in London, where young Edward settled in 1874, the firm operates businesses in Britain, Germany, France, Sweden, Australia, South Africa and the United States.

It was a Birmingham stamp dealer, Edward Loines Pemberton, who has been fairly described as the father of scientific philately. To him, the picture on the stamp (at that time usually the ruling monarch, the arms of the issuing country or just plain numerals) mattered little. He wanted to know how the stamp had been printed, the type of paper used, whether it had a watermark, or any other aspect of production which might enable him to distinguish the genuine from the forged. In 1863 he knew enough to write, and have monographs appear with us-

published by Colston & Son

banks in Liverpool, who salvaged the stamps from mail addressed to their employers. London office boys followed suit and Eu-

chian Lane in the City soon

became the scene of a

regular lunch-hour open-air

stamp bourse. These enter-

prising lads were not first

in the field, for a flouris-

hing stamp bourse was estab-

lished in the Tuileries

Gardens had led to the first

regular stamp shop being

opened in Paris a few years

earlier. Similar activity was

Stuart Rose discusses approaches to stamp design in Britain and Patrick O'Leary recalls the

William Dockwra post, launched just 300 years ago

Black is beautiful

Since the issue of the first adhesive postage stamp in 1840, it has been the operational functionality of a stamp rather than its artistic merit that has preoccupied the minds of the Post Office and its suppliers. To them, the postage stamp played an important part in the successful handling and trafficking of mail, being a receipt for the prepayment of a postal service and the only indication to postal staff of what service had been paid for.

Any ambiguity, therefore, in the way in which that information was conveyed could well put at risk the efficiency of the service. Even the Penny Black, arguably the most beautiful stamp Britain produced, was designed first as an efficient tool in mail handling and only incidentally did it eventually turn out to be a product of such beauty.

Yet in spite of the strictures laid upon itself the Post Office has always recognized its own responsibility to the public to issue stamps with as much artistic merit as possible; and, within the stylistic limits of period and taste it has set and maintained a remarkably high standard of design.

Never claiming any professional competence in such matters of artistic expression, it has always sought outside professional advice; following the example set by Rowland Hill who consulted three Royal Academicians on the design of his first Penny Black.

Probably because no other advice was available, the Post Office tended to look towards artists, rather than designers, for help and encouraged the belief that stamp design had everything to do with art—a fallacy which persists even in some quarters today. It was, however, the creation of the Council of Industrial Design in 1946 and the subsequent formation of its own Stamp Advisory Panel that saw the new profession of designers becoming involved not only



as practitioners, but in the activities of selection and adjudication which the panel performed.

It was not until 1968, however, that the Post Office took a major step towards complete involvement in professional design by creating the post of design director and fitting it with a professional designer. For many years it had been an enlightened patron of design, commissioning freelance designers to work mainly on publicity material. But it had never seriously considered employing professional designers on its own staff.

At the same time as the creation of this new design post, a new Stamp Advisory Committee was established, to be administered by the Post Office under the chairmanship of its director of operations and overseas. With the new committee, however, the fact that it was under Post Office control made possible for the first time a much closer

relationship between itself and the designer in the first place, then progressively between the designer and the printer; so recreating the classic pattern of professional design direction involving one coordinated operation the client, the designer and the manufacturer. The coincidence of these two changes in design control was to make possible a new approach to stamp design and heralded the golden years of British stamp design.

The success of this new policy is seen in the stamp that derived from it, and it was recognized in 1973 by a Design Council Award for the previous year's stamp programme together with the supporting promotional print of first-day covers and presentation packs. That the Design Council, whose standards are high and demanding, should have made this award was praise enough, but that it should have been made for the first time a much closer



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stamps rather than their essential that the Post Office should have a clear idea in its own mind of how the stamp should ultimately look. In the end it will inevitably reflect current Post Office taste and it is not difficult to see a salesman's hand in some of the recent stamps. Client influence, however good a designer may be, the product of his skill will be as good as his client will allow it to be. In the case of stamps, like dogs and the police, where the pursuit of popularity has resulted in a somewhat banal representation, the manager in which the Post Office believes it should be expressed.

Every year the Postal Marketing Department will receive about two hundred requests from outside sources for an issue of stamps to commemorate an event or a personality. It will also compile its own programme from subjects which it considers cannot be ignored in terms of public reaction or political expediency. Also, in pursuit of its own marketing policy, it will include subjects which it believes will increase philatelic sales.

With only five or six places to fill in a year's programme, the problem of maintaining a proper balance between subjects without causing too much offence is a delicate one. In addition, it is of fundamental

importance that, given an equal choice, only subjects which are capable of a good design solution should be considered for not all subjects, however worthy in themselves, will necessarily make a worthy stamp.

But the decision that will have the greatest effect on the ultimate stamp is the one which will establish the style of design and therefore the choice of designer. Although this should properly be a professional decision taken by the design adviser, he often finds himself under pressure from the committee, and elsewhere to go their way.

In a number of instances the subject itself will dictate the treatment, but it is

stamps which have met this condition have been Dulac's 1953 Coronation, David Gentleman's Churchill in 1965 and his three castles in the Investiture issue of 1969 and Social Reformers of 1976; Andrew Restall's Commonwealth Games of 1970 and Sailing in 1975; Britain's 1974; Peter Murdoch's EEC of 1973; and Geoffrey Matthews' Coronation Anniversary of 1978.

However susceptible a subject may be to a good design solution, and however good the designer may be, the ultimate quality of design will depend entirely on the standards of design held by the Post Office and its professional ability and willingness to uphold them; without that even the best of designers can be of little help.

With today's wide range of subjects such an attitude is hardly practical, but at least the dominant element should be a well-controlled graphic design expression of the subject, not just an illustration. Without making

individual comparisons, stamps which have met this condition have been Dulac's 1953 Coronation, David Gentleman's Churchill in 1965 and his three castles in the Investiture issue of 1969 and Social Reformers of 1976; Andrew Restall's Commonwealth Games of 1970 and Sailing in 1975; Britain's 1974; Peter Murdoch's EEC of 1973; and Geoffrey Matthews' Coronation Anniversary of 1978.

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Stock Exchange Prices

Equities and gilts steady

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, April 28. Dealings End, May 9. \$ Contango Day, May 12. Settlement Day, May 19

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

| High | Low | Stock | Int. | Gross | Div | Yld | Price | Chg | per cent | % P/E | High | Low | Stock | Int. | Gross | Div | Yld | Price | Chg | per cent | % P/E | High | Low | Stock | Int. | Gross | Div | Yld | Price | Chg | per cent | % P/E | | |
|----------------------|------|-------|------|---------|------|-----|-------|--------|----------|-------|------|----------------|-------|------|-------|------|------|-------|-----|-----------------|-------|------|------|-------|------|-------|-----|----------------|-------|-----|----------|-------|-----|-----|
| BRITISH FUNDS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5000 | 4980 | Treas | 25-6 | 1977-80 | 8000 | .. | 3,500 | 16,903 | A—B | 102 | 83 | Dom Hides | 101 | .. | 7.7 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 121 | 81 | McKechie Bros | 91 | .. | 9.9 | 9.5 | 4.1 | 151 | 79 | Thornhill Sand | 100 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 310 |
| 5001 | 5002 | Treas | 25-6 | 1977-80 | 8000 | .. | 3,517 | 17,354 | .. | 103 | 84 | Burada Mides | 95 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 122 | 82 | MacKenzie Scott | 95 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 312 | | | | | | | | |
| 5003 | 5004 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,517 | 17,354 | .. | 104 | 85 | Briggs & Mills | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 123 | 83 | Tisbury Cont | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 313 | | | | | | | | |
| 5005 | 5006 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,520 | 17,354 | .. | 105 | 86 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 124 | 84 | Maltings Prod | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 314 | | | | | | | | |
| 5007 | 5008 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,522 | 17,354 | .. | 106 | 87 | Briggs & Mills | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 125 | 85 | Music Mfg | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 315 | | | | | | | | |
| 5009 | 5010 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,523 | 17,354 | .. | 107 | 88 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 126 | 86 | Naismith J. H. | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 316 | | | | | | | | |
| 5011 | 5012 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,524 | 17,354 | .. | 108 | 89 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 127 | 87 | Briggs & Mills | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 317 | | | | | | | | |
| 5013 | 5014 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,525 | 17,354 | .. | 109 | 90 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 128 | 88 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 318 | | | | | | | | |
| 5015 | 5016 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,526 | 17,354 | .. | 110 | 91 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 129 | 89 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 319 | | | | | | | | |
| 5017 | 5018 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,527 | 17,354 | .. | 111 | 92 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 130 | 90 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 320 | | | | | | | | |
| 5019 | 5020 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,528 | 17,354 | .. | 112 | 93 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 131 | 91 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 321 | | | | | | | | |
| 5021 | 5022 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,529 | 17,354 | .. | 113 | 94 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 132 | 92 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 322 | | | | | | | | |
| 5023 | 5024 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,530 | 17,354 | .. | 114 | 95 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 133 | 93 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 323 | | | | | | | | |
| 5025 | 5026 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,531 | 17,354 | .. | 115 | 96 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 134 | 94 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 324 | | | | | | | | |
| 5027 | 5028 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,532 | 17,354 | .. | 116 | 97 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 135 | 95 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 325 | | | | | | | | |
| 5029 | 5030 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,533 | 17,354 | .. | 117 | 98 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 136 | 96 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 326 | | | | | | | | |
| 5031 | 5032 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,534 | 17,354 | .. | 118 | 99 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 137 | 97 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 327 | | | | | | | | |
| 5033 | 5034 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,535 | 17,354 | .. | 119 | 100 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 138 | 98 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 328 | | | | | | | | |
| 5035 | 5036 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,536 | 17,354 | .. | 120 | 101 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 139 | 99 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 329 | | | | | | | | |
| 5037 | 5038 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,537 | 17,354 | .. | 121 | 102 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 140 | 100 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 330 | | | | | | | | |
| 5039 | 5040 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,538 | 17,354 | .. | 122 | 103 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 141 | 101 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 331 | | | | | | | | |
| 5041 | 5042 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,539 | 17,354 | .. | 123 | 104 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 142 | 102 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 332 | | | | | | | | |
| 5043 | 5044 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,540 | 17,354 | .. | 124 | 105 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 143 | 103 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 333 | | | | | | | | |
| 5045 | 5046 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,541 | 17,354 | .. | 125 | 106 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 144 | 104 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 334 | | | | | | | | |
| 5047 | 5048 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,542 | 17,354 | .. | 126 | 107 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 145 | 105 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 335 | | | | | | | | |
| 5049 | 5050 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,543 | 17,354 | .. | 127 | 108 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 146 | 106 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 336 | | | | | | | | |
| 5051 | 5052 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,544 | 17,354 | .. | 128 | 109 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 147 | 107 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 337 | | | | | | | | |
| 5053 | 5054 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,545 | 17,354 | .. | 129 | 110 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 148 | 108 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 338 | | | | | | | | |
| 5055 | 5056 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | 3,546 | 17,354 | .. | 130 | 111 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 7.8 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 149 | 109 | Brown & Sons | 102 | .. | 10.0 | 10.0 | 6.1 | 339 | | | | | | | | |
| 5057 | 5058 | Treas | 13-6 | 1980 | 8000 | .. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Can the Co-op
become more
business-like?
Page 29

| |
|----------------------------|
| ■ Stock markets |
| FT Ind 444.9 up 1.3 |
| FT Glos 58.25 up 0.55 |
| ■ Sterling |
| 52.2800 up 2.45 cents |
| Index 73.2 unchanged |
| ■ Dollar |
| Index 83.8 down 1.4 |
| ■ Gold |
| \$312.50 unchanged |
| ■ Money |
| 3-month sterling 164 to 17 |
| 3-month Euro 5 123 to 127 |
| 6-month Euro \$ 111 to 114 |

IN BRIEF

£240,000 paid to Sir Fred Pontin by Coral

A £240,000 golden handshake was paid to Sir Fred Pontin by Coral Leisure Group which took over his holiday company two years ago. The group's annual accounts show Sir Fred, who is 73, left Coral a year ago.

The company's auditors qualified the accounts because they had no access to certain subsidiaries' financial records which are held by the Metropolitan Police after last year's raids on Coral's four West End casinos.

Financial News, page 30.

No comment on steel

A European Economic Community spokesman has reiterated the EEC Commission's condemnation of the anti-dumping suit filed by United States Steel Corporation against European steelmakers, but said he could not comment further on the Trade Commission's preliminary finding that the suit was justified.

£2m Bombay mill

Davy Ashmore India has won a £2m order to build an aluminium strip mill at Talegaon, north of Bombay. It will be designed by Loewy Robertson, another member of the Davy Corporation, for Indian Aluminium, part of Alcan Group.

Dollar down in Europe

The latest round of cuts in United States interest rates depressed the dollar throughout Europe yesterday. Its effective index fell by 1.4 percentage points to 85.8 per cent of its December 1971 level. Sterling rose by 2.45 cents to \$2.28.

Opec agreement near

Ministers from member states of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries meeting in Saudi Arabia today for an extraordinary conference are confident they are within sight of agreement on a plan which would stabilize oil prices and protect long-term interests of the oil exporters.

Gatt priority

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) said in its 1979 annual report that top priority was being placed on the implementation of the Tokyo round agreements concluded last November.

Five job losses

Nairn Floors, the five limited company, has dismissed 100 workers because of a drop in United Kingdom trade and plant conversion problems. The redundancies bring the area's job losses to over 2,000 in 12 months.

Glass sales dip

Sales of British-made glass containers fell slightly last year, partly because of the road haulage strike. However, soft drink bottle sales rose by 4.5 per cent. Experts fell by 12 per cent but home sales increased by 0.3 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

| |
|-------------------------|
| Rises |
| Argoletrode 10 to 6p |
| Boergerstein 10p to 55p |
| Feader 10p to 37p |
| Graham Hse 10p to 15p |
| Hawfin 10p to 14p |

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Mothercare | 14p to 15p |
| Municipal | 20p to 50p |
| East Mine Prop | 10p to 20p |
| Squires | 4p to 54p |
| Sun Alliance | 15p to 61p |

Falls

| |
|----------------------------|
| Amal Tel-Nigra 10 to 15p |
| Brand & Haskins 10p to 50p |
| East Boston 10p to 17p |
| Guthrie Corp 10p to 75p |
| Marshall Univ 12p to 44p |

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Massey-Ferguson | 10p to 325p |
| Norton Simon | 20p to 550p |
| Webb Gp | 2p to 28p |
| Whessoe | 6p to 56p |

THE POUND

| | | |
|--------------|---------|---------|
| Bank | buys | sells |
| Australia \$ | 2.11 | 2.04 |
| Austria Sch | 30.50 | 28.75 |
| Belgium Fr | 63.75 | 60.50 |
| Canada \$ | 1.14 | 1.07 |
| Denmark Kr | 12.20 | 12.65 |
| Finland Mark | 8.85 | 8.46 |
| France Fr | 9.50 | 9.40 |
| Germany DM | 4.74 | 4.62 |
| Greece Dr | 37.00 | 32.00 |
| Hongkong \$ | 11.40 | 10.95 |
| Iceland Fr | 1.14 | 1.10 |
| Italy Lira | 1985.00 | 1890.00 |
| Japan Yen | 589.00 | 534.00 |
| Malta Gld | 4.63 | 4.46 |

April wholesale price index gives hint of easing inflation

By David Blake
Economics Editor

by manufacturing industries other than food, drink and tobacco.

During April the cost of raw materials was held down by the strength of sterling. Many of the raw materials used by industry are imported at prices quoted in foreign currencies, so the higher the pound stands, the less industry has to pay.

The Government is hoping that this and a general easing in world commodity prices will take the inflationary pressure off next year. But movements in wage costs are likely to be of key importance and there is no sign of a slowdown in these yet.

They have been rising relatively rapidly over the past six months, although government economists point out that manufacturing industry, which is exposed to international competition, has been negotiating smaller pay settlements than the service sector.

Wage cost account for about 70 per cent of price movements for the economy as a whole, so their impact is considerably greater than is the impact of raw material and fuel prices.

But the cost of raw materials which has pushed up prices sharply in the past few months ought to start working to lower the inflation rate from now on. The onset of the world recession is leading to a drop in all commodity prices and this is reinforcing the effects of the strong pound.

Table, page 25

British Shipbuilders' new chairman will take £7,000 pay cut

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Mr Robert Atkinson has been appointed chairman of British Shipbuilders and will take up the post at the beginning of July.

The Government said Mr Atkinson who succeeds Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin. He will take a £7,000 cut in his present salary as chairman of Aurora Holdings, to take on the £44,000-a-year chairmanship for three-and-a-half years.

He has resigned from 26 other directorships but will remain part-time chairman of Aurora, the Sheffield-based steelmaking and engineering group, in order to preserve his pension rights.

Mr Atkinson has been with Aurora for the past eight years and has played a major role in the rationalisation of the special steel industry. He said that, unlike Mr Ian MacGregor who was appointed chairman of the British Steel Corporation last week, he would be joining BS "on a free transfer".

"As far as I am concerned, I am and always have been an intensely patriotic person. I have always said, and will say, I will serve my country wherever and whenever required", he said.

Asked about the industry's present problems and the rundown of the merchant shipbuilding labour force he said: "I think that there are too many men making too few ships."

"We have to get more ships or reduce the number of men, and if you want job security it must be related to financial productivity and delivery performance. Yards would be accorded considerable autonomy

in their operations but financial functions would be centralized.

Mr Atkinson is no stranger to the industry. Twenty years ago he was managing director of Doxford Engineering (now scheduled to be closed by BS) and was managing director of Hanworth Engineering, a major marine equipment supplier.

Asked about the industry's present problems and the rundown of the merchant shipbuilding labour force he said: "I think that there are too many men making too few ships."

"We have to get more ships or reduce the number of men, and if you want job security it must be related to financial productivity and delivery performance. Yards would be accorded considerable autonomy

New chief's aims, page 26



Sir John King: Ferranti disposal important in changing the NEB's portfolio.

NEB's Ferranti disposal nears completion as tension on the board's new role mounts

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Preparations for the National Enterprise Board's disposal of its 50 per cent stake in Ferranti are expected to be completed by the end of next month.

Sir John King, deputy chairman of the NEB, said yesterday that progress on the disposal of Ferranti to the private sector was important in the examination of the board's portfolio of investments made necessary by the Government's change of role for the NEB.

The board has already disposed of its interest in ICL for £37m and more recently reached agreement for the sale of its 100 per cent interest in Fairley Holdings. These disposals were originally linked to the Government's request that the board realized £100m from disposals in the last financial year, although the deadline was lifted.

Ferranti, which was among the prime candidates for sale last year, recorded a turnover of £192.6m and lifted pre-tax profits to £9.94m. The form of the disposal has not yet been determined although options will include the placing of the NEB shares or invitations to tender from potential bidders.

The Government is insisting on increasing the level of private sector involvement, having off the profitable interests and playing a catalytic role in high technology, proving a source of tension to Sir Arthur Knight, the NEB chairman, and his successor.

Sir Arthur was appointed after the resignation last November of the previous board in the wake of the Government's decision to take direct responsibility for monitoring Rolls-Royce's progress.

One particular problem concerns the NEB's present financial duty requiring it

means of supporting its new projects during their start up and loss making years.

"We attach importance to having a proper commercial target, both for our own internal purposes and also as an objective test of our performance."

Discussions on a new financial duty to reflect the changing portfolio will take place shortly in view of the imminent enactment of the Industry Bill which is now before Parliament.

The continued absence of a decision on the future relationship between BL and the board is another source of concern. Sir Arthur reaffirmed in the NEB report his belief that responsibility for BL should be transferred to the Department of Industry.

"The magnitude of BL, its problems and its financial requirements means that Government must inevitably be closely involved in its major decisions, thus leaving for the NEB only a relatively minor intermediary role. We would gain nothing of substance by having this illusory responsibility." That view was endorsed by Sir John, depuitizing for Sir Arthur at a press conference yesterday.

The NEB is frustrated by the lack of a decision from Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, on granting a further £25m to Innos, the NEB-backed semiconductor company.

Decisions have been complicated by GEC's interest in taking a part or total stake in Innos. GEC has received detailed information on Innos from the NEB which now awaits a reply.

Sir Arthur said: "This is a worrying delay to a project where success depends on bringing satisfactory products to the market at the right time in the face of strong foreign competition."

Financial Editor, page 29

Builders expect big profit margins of past two years to be eroded

By John Huxley

Building contractors have enjoyed two years in which output and tender prices have outstripped costs by between 25 and 35 per cent, it was disclosed yesterday.

However, this relationship will be reversed in 1980-81, according to the National Federation of Building Trades Employers (NFBTE). It says in its annual report that public housebuilding cuts will drive more competition into other sectors of the industry. Also, both private and public clients will become more price sensitive.

The NFBTE claims there is now a clear risk that a cyclical downturn in private sector demand will coincide with a cutback in public workload. This will lead soon to a downturn in the industry's activity, output and employment.

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The report welcomes the Government's "honest and forthright approach" towards the underlying problems of inflation, incentives and enterprise.

At the same time, there are indications that labour and raw

material costs are again rising strongly. Earlier this year, for example, cement makers introduced a controversial 24 per cent price rise. Overall, building material costs are moving towards an annual inflation rate of about 20 per cent.

During the past 12 months, the builders have made strong representations to the materials suppliers on the damage that will be caused to the industry if material price increases are not constrained to meet new market pressures.

The NFBTE has set up a Building Materials Advisory Group, including buyers from member companies, to offer advice on materials supply.

The report welcomes the Government's "honest and forthright approach" towards the underlying problems of inflation, incentives and enterprise.

The question of status among engineers and others in the manufacturing industries features prominently in the submission.

The production engineers believe that no United Kingdom degree was a better indicator of ability than qualifications derived from the professional bodies.

On this the institution's sub

mission like many others that have already been presented to the Department of Industry stressed that it did not accept the present manufacturing

of the United Kingdom was attributable to engineers and their education.

One of the most important conclusions of the committee has been questioned by the institution. This is the establishment of an engineering authority to control the education and licensing of professional engineers.

The attack is contained in the institution's response to the committee's findings and submitted by invitation to the Department of Industry.</

The Charterhouse Group 1979

Mr Nigel Mobbs reports

In my statement last year I forecast that profits for 1979 would be little changed. In fact, the year on year improvement at the pre-tax level, excluding the bank, is just under 10%. The improvement in attributable profit includes the benefit of higher oil revenues, improved profits from Charterhouse Japhet, lower profit attributable to minority interests and a considerably reduced tax charge.

The attributable profit after taxation of £8,824,000 for the year ended 31st December 1979 showed an increase of 37% over that for the comparable twelve months of 1978, and earnings per share increased by 34.8%.

Dividend

The Directors are recommending a final dividend of 2.5 pence per share, which when aggregated with the interim payment, amounts to 4.1 pence per share - an effective annual increase of 11.1%.

| Results in brief | £ million | 1979 | *1978 | 1978 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| | 12 months | 12 months | 15 months | months |
| Profit before interest (excluding the bank) | 18.6 | 15.6 | 18.7 | |
| Profit before taxation (excluding the bank) | 10.3 | 9.4 | 11.4 | |
| Profit of the bank after tax and transfer to inner reserve | 1.4 | 0.8 | 0.9 | |
| Attributable group profit after taxation | 8.8 | 6.4 | 7.8 | |
| Earnings per ordinary share (pence) | 9.25 | 6.86 | 8.276 | |
| Dividends per ordinary share (pence) | 4.10 | 3.69 | 4.613 | |

*Unaudited figures for the 12 months ended 31st December 1978

The main features of the year's results are:

- Very satisfactory improvements in results from both the banking and development capital activities.
- A continued strong performance by Spring Grove provided the basis during the latter part of the year for a very successful flotation by way of tender offer to the Group's shareholders and 60% of the issued capital of this company is now in the hands of the public. More than £10 million was raised, so strengthening the Group's balance sheet, improving its gearing and providing resources for new investment. The flotation in 1979 is the culmination of a long and successful relationship and is a good example of the Charterhouse philosophy of helping companies grow to a stage where they are large and strong enough to become independent.
- The first substantial contribution from the Group's investment in the Thistle Field; Charterhouse Petroleum Development, which early in the year increased its stake in the Thistle Field to 2.3%, produced profits of £3.4 million compared with a figure of only £655,000 in the previous year. Future prospects appear to be excellent.
- A strong recovery by Charcon Products, although this was partially offset by a substantial reduction in the contribution from Newage Engineers, which suffered from lower demand in its international markets.
- Glanvill Enthoven was affected by increased international competition in insurance broking, over-capacity in the market and the high value of sterling.

Future prospects

The Group is now a broadly based investment and banking group, offering a wide range of financial and equity support to commerce and industry. As an investment and banking group, Charterhouse will continue to assist the prosperous development of small to medium sized businesses and its financial resources will continue to be re-invested in new opportunities.

The Group is increasing its spread of investments and financial activities and, subject to no unforeseen circumstances, looks forward to a better year for profits, which should again be materially assisted by increased oil revenues, even though such profits are more highly taxed than other profits.

NIGEL MOBBS, Chairman



The Charterhouse Group is an investment and banking group listed on the Stock Exchange, London, with shareholders' funds of £70 million and total capital employed of £105 million. More than 50% of profits arise from exports and overseas earnings.

The Group's strategy is to invest in businesses with the object of improving their profitability and future prospects. Many of the subsidiaries of Charterhouse have been developed from small beginnings and are now successful and mature enterprises. Opportunities to enhance the further development of these companies by the allocation of additional resources or by the introduction of additional partners or shareholders, or by flotation if appropriate, are always under active consideration.

Charterhouse aims to achieve a balanced investment portfolio, earning an improving return on capital in which risk, profit and capital requirements are balanced, so limiting exposure in individual market sectors, companies and geographical locations.

Copies of the Annual Report of The Charterhouse Group Limited are obtainable from: Group Communications Department, The Charterhouse Group Limited, 1 Paternoster Row, St. Pauls, London EC4M 7DH. Telephone 01-248 3999.

British Shipbuilders' new chairman spells out his objectives for reviving the state corporation

Mr Robert Atkinson, British Shipbuilders' new chairman, lost no time in spelling out his objectives for his third and a half year stint at the loss-making state shipbuilding corporation.

Mr Atkinson, small and quietly spoken like Mr Ian MacGregor, his recently appointed but infinitely more controversial state industry colleague at the British Steel Corporation, fits perfectly the specification laid down by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, to carry through Government industrial policies in the nationalised sector.

A successful private sector businessman with some merchant banking experience (he was with Keyser Ullman for three years) and above all with knowledge of the industry, Mr Atkinson takes over at BS as full time chairman and chief executive on July 1.

The chairman designate yesterday emphasized his faith in the future of shipbuilding and left no doubt that he would pursue the objectives of establishing a strong and viable industry. That is nothing new as

an objective and as he frankly admitted every shipbuilding industry in the world was subsidised to some degree.

But Mr Atkinson looks set to take the pruning shears to the corporation, pretty quickly. Surplus land and buildings

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